

MEMORANDUM:

Proposals on Native Government:

The aim of this memorandum is to offer a suggestion for the reorganization of Native Government based upon the provisions of the Native Governments Ordinance 1941. It is suggested that, if the scheme offers a system of constructive government, it should be put into effect on Tarawa immediately where the District Officer would have the opportunity to observe its effectiveness and to comment upon its failures. This draft incorporates the results of several discussions with Major Wernham who has offered sound criticism and valuable help.

A. EXECUTIVE CONTROL:

Major Wernham has informed me that Major Kennedy, sometime District Officer Ellice Islands, has advocated that the precedence on any Island should be granted to the Chief of Kaubure as the leader of the elective government. Carrying this proposal further it seems logical to separate the Offices of judicial and executive authority by removing control of executive affairs from the province of the Native Magistrate and placing it to the Chief of Kaubure.

Advantages:

(a) The Native Magistrate as a purely judicial Officer would be inclined to be less biased in directing judgement if the inner conflict of a prisoner's flouting of his administrative authority were removed:

(b) The Chief of Kaubure who is, in reality, the president of the elective body would assume his rightful place as Executive Officer and senior member of the Native Government.

B. CHIEF OF KAUBURE:

(a) As provided for in Section 4 subsection (3) and Section 6 subsection (1) of the Native Governments Ordinance with amendments as at A: E (iv): F (ii): G (ii): H (ii), (iii) and (iv) and provisions of Section 4 subsection (1) of the Native Governments Ordinance.

C. NATIVE MAGISTRATE:

(i) Appointment to stand as at Section 6 subsection (1) of the Native Governments Ordinance:

(ii) No executive control see A:

(iii) Precedence next after the Chief of Kaubure see A:

(iv) To preside over Native Court and Lands Court only:

D. SCRIBE:

As provided for in Section 4 subsection 4 of Native Governments Ordinance with amendment in E (vi).

E. ISLAND COUNCIL:

(i) Establishment of an elective Island Council based on population figures:

(ii) All Natives over the age of 31 years to have the vote (See Section 12 of the Native Governments Ordinance):

(iii) Suggested basis for franchise not more than one representative for each 200 persons of population (NB "population" not voters):

(iv) Island Council to meet monthly with the Chief of Kaubure as President:

(v) Native Magistrate shall not attend these meetings:

(vi) Scribe, Native Medical Practitioner (or Dresser when NMP not available), one member each denomination School teacher and one Government School Teacher (when available) to sit as advisory members of the Council but with no voting powers:

(vii) Council to have all powers delegated in Sections 14 through 16 of the Native Governments Ordinance:

Advantages:

Advantages:

(a) The Island Council would constitute the elected Government of the Island and from its members would be drawn the jurors for the Native Court:

(b) As a prime consideration is to avoid the building of an unwieldy system of Government the number of members should be reduced to a minimum; on 1938 population figures the Council on Tarawa would consist of only one member per village that is, I think, 22 members exclusive of advisory members: should any one village demand more than one member the total should, even then, not amount to more than 29 that is one member per 100 head of population

(b) Medical and Educational advice would be readily available:

(c) It has the merits of the Island Council envisaged under the Native Governments Ordinance without being separate entirely from the jurors of the Native Court:

F. NATIVE COURT:

(i) Provisions of Sections 8 through 11 of the Native Governments Ordinance to stand with the exception that

(ii) The Court would consist of the Native Magistrate and not less than six members of the Kaubure chosen in rotation sitting as jurors:

Advantages:

By limiting the number of jurors the system of justice is not materially affected and the Court would be more compact:

G. KAUBURE:

(i) Provisions of Section 4 subsection 6 Native Governments Ordinance to stand but for election procedure see under Island Council E above:

(ii) Suggest provision for enquiry into misconduct of Kaubure provided that not less than ten members of the electoral roll of any Kaubures village District present a signed petition to the Chief of Kaubure asking for an investigation: the Chief of Kaubure will deliver the petition at the next meeting of the Island Council which body may refuse or uphold the petitioners claim:

(iii) If the Council finds the Kaubure guilty of misconduct or behaviour harmful to Native welfare it may direct the Chief of Kaubure to suspend the Kaubure pending confirmation by the District Officer:

(iv) The Chief of Kaubure shall inform the District Officer of the charge and suspension as soon as possible and if the DO upholds the decision of the Council the Kaubure may be dismissed by the Chief of Kaubure and a new election held in which the Kaubure dismissed may not offer himself for re-election

Advantage:

This procedure ~~is~~ probably legalizes a position already practised and has the merit of making a Kaubure responsible to his voters while offering him a fair trial before his equals:

H. ISLAND POLICE:

(i) Provisions of Section 4 subsections (5) and (7) of the Native Governments Ordinance to stand with exceptions noted at (iv) below:

(ii) Appointment of Chief of Police as follows - the Chief of Kaubure to nominate 3 applicants and Island Council to approve the appointment of one: the Chief of Kaubure to submit the decision to DO for confirmation: in circumstances where no applicant is approved the DoO may appoint a fit person:

(iii) Election of village Police to be replaced by nomination by Chief of Kaubure subject to conditions in (ii) above:

(iv) District Police not to be under orders of Kaubure but to give any reasonable assistance when required: failure to fulfil request to be reported to the Chief of Police by the Kaubure laying the complaint: on recommendation of the Chief of Police after his hearing the details of the complaint the Chief of Kaubure may order up to 7 days fatigue duty to the delinquent to be performed on the Government Station @ 9 hours per day:

/per day:

any policeman shall have the right to appeal to the Chief of Kaubure if he considers his hearing has been unfair but the Chief of Kaubure's decision shall be final: of course any contravention of Native Law or Island Regulations would be a Court matter: when circumstances warrant the Chief of Kaubure may suspend a Policeman from duty and confine him to the Government Station but the District Officer shall be informed as soon as possible: if the suspension is confirmed and the man dismissed pay shall cease from the date of suspension: if suspension is overruled by the DO the DO may make such judgement in respect of pay as he deems advisable:

J. WARDERS & WARDRESSES:

(i) As at Section 4 subsections (8) and (9) of Native Governments Ordinance:

(ii) Appointments and penalties as at H (iii) and (iv):

K. LANDE COURT:

(i) As in Sections 17 through 21 of the Native Governments Ordinance.

(ii) The Chief of Kaubure and Scribe shall not be members of this

Court:

Advantages:

(a) The question of land disputes is purely judicial and executive Officers should not be involved:

(b) By allowing the Native Magistrate to preside without the presence of the Chief of Kaubure the purely judicial capacity of the office will be emphasised:

L. POINTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION:

(i) Extent of Native Government Control over Island Finances:

(ii) Future of legislative powers of the Island Council:

(iii) Education and training of Native Government Officials:

(iv) Formation of a separate Native Judicial Service:

Lieutenant.

6th March, 1944.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,
SUVA, FIJI.

11th April, 1944.

Dear Miss Pateman,

Thank you for your letter of the 9th March, which reached me shortly after my return from a very prolonged trip round the Pacific.

I can quite understand your anxiety to return to Beru at the first possible opportunity, but can give you no information as yet as to when civilians will be allowed back to the Group. You will, I know, readily appreciate that for the present, and it may be for some time to come, the Gilberts are an active theatre of war and the supreme control is entirely in the hands of the military authorities. The return of the civil European population, however desirable, must necessarily take second place to military operational considerations.

My advice is to keep in close touch with Mr. Eastman, who is himself in close touch with the changing day to day situation in the islands. As Chairman of the Gilbert Islands District Committee he will no doubt make representations for your return (and the return of the Ellice girls stranded at Papauta), as soon as he considers the time ripe.

You will no doubt have heard of poor Sadd's death: I understand that it has not yet been confirmed beyond all shadow of doubt, but the evidence seems pretty conclusive. Pastor Iupeli and Sara are both reported well, though Iupeli has been ill and is now said to be thin. He carried on in charge of Rongorongo after Sadd was taken prisoner. Rongorong seems to have been ^{fairly} badly looted but otherwise no one harmed.

Generally speaking, it seems the Gilbertese have come out of their ordeal with very few losses, and with less hardship than might have been anticipated.

Old Father Lebeen died a natural death in 1943 but otherwise the Fathers and Sisters are all safe and as well as could be anticipated.

I am sorry not to be able to give you more definite news of when you may expect to be allowed back but so far no civilians (whether Missionaries, Government officials, or traders) have returned.

Honor sends her love and we hope Samoa is not proving too bad a place of exile.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE.

Miss Mary Pateman,
Papauta,
Western Samoa.

MEMORANDUM.

To: MAJOR E. W. S. HARROP, MILITARY SECRETARY.

Mr. Host Greig, of Washington Island.

- (1) Mr. Greig is the Washington Island Manager for Messrs Fanning Island Plantations, Limited. He is of partly Scots and partly Manihiki (Cook Islands) and Gilbertese ancestry; his grandfather, the freehold owner of both Fanning and Washington Islands, having married the Manihiki Princess. Locally he is treated as a European, his cousin Mr. Hugh Greig, being one of the best known and respected residents of Eastern Polynesia.
- (2) A native murder trial was remitted in January last from Washington Island to the Fiji Supreme Court. On the 10th February the case had to be adjourned, as the defending counsel demanded the attendance of Mr. Greig as a material witness.
- (3) A request was then made by the High Commissioner for plane transportation from Washington Island to Fiji for Mr. Greig: This was refused by the G.O.C. on the ground that "this passage cannot be considered to be essential to the war effort". In the meantime, however, the Acting Administrative Officer, Fanning Island, and the British Consul-General, Honolulu, had arranged with the Hawaiian Authorities for Mr. Greig to travel by air via Honolulu: he arrived here on the 29th February.
- (4) Mr. Greig's evidence was not, apparently, of any material importance, and at the conclusion of the trial on the 14th March the High Commissioner was faced with the problem of how to get him back to Washington Island. Lieut. Commander Hill and the various shipping firms were approached with a view to/
to/

to the deviation of a vessel on route from Fiji to America, but without success. It has been seriously suggested that he should be sent to Noumea, where he would be able to get a sailing to San Francisco, whence he would eventually be able to reach Hawaii, where there is a sailing to Fanning Island approximately 6 times a year - this would take about 9 months!

- (5) Unless some more direct means of returning Mr. Greig can be found, it is proposed to send him to the Gilbert Islands where he can select the next batch of labour for Fanning and Washington, pending the proposed recruiting voyage to those islands. He can then either return on the recruiting vessel (in about 6 months time) or possibly secure a passage on a transport bound for Hawaii from the Gilberts or Marshalls. Meanwhile we are paying him a subsistence allowance of 15s. a day, in accordance with the Supreme Court directions.
- (6) It is suggested that it might be possible to obtain a plane passage for Mr. Greig on the grounds that the copra produced at Washington is essential to the war effort. The island produces over 1,000 tons a year and it is understood, furthermore, to be the nearest Pacific Island plantation to the United States of America, the expense and risk of freighting, therefore, being very small. Mr. Garrett, the Company's Manager at Fanning Island, has flown across to Washington to take charge there, on the understanding that Mr. Greig would be absent about a month. He is now naturally getting rather alarmed, his latest telegram reading: "Urgently request your every effort expedite Greig's return".

For Secretary to the High Commission.

Suva, Fiji Islands,
29th April, 1944.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,
SUVA, FIJI.
17th April, 1944.

Dear Commander Cross,

I arrived back from Pitcairn, via San Francisco and Honolulu, on the 10th March and will write you the latest island gossip as soon as I have reduced the mountain of arrears in official work. In the meantime, re Reeve Cooze - could you please get him into the Navy or the Merchant Marine? He's just dying to join, and it will be the making of him, I'm convinced. There's a lot of good in the boy, but the atmosphere of Pitcairn Island, with its lack of discipline, just brings out the worst.

I have advised him to report to you immediately on arrival in Wellington, but I know he won't remember so suggest that you might add directions to that effect to your telegram authorizing his travel to New Zealand. By the way, he has no thick clothes - if he joins the Navy they'll presumably outfit him and the Captain of a Merchant ship might be willing to advance him a month or so's wages to purchase what he needs from the slop chest. However if he's desperate, would you advance the scoundrel up to say £5 as a loan (not a gift) from me, and I'll refund immediately you let me know. Only please see that he uses it for buying necessities, and not beer and cigarettes.

Please remember me to Mrs. Cross and your mother-in-law. I shall always feel indebted to you all for your great kindness to me in Wellington. Life would indeed have been lonely and miserable had you not taken pity on me and I did so enjoy the evenings at your hospitable flat.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed). H. E. MAUDE.

Lieutenant-Commander R.L. Cross, R.N.Z.N.V.R.,
Naval Contact Service,
Navy Office,
Wellington, C.I.
New Zealand.



OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS
COLONY.

Tarawa Island,
18th May, 1944.

Dear Maude,

As you probably know, the Colony is endeavouring to raise £2,500 sterling for the purchase of an aircraft tender for the Royal Navy.

I send for your information a copy of the circular which has been sent (in the vernacular of course) to Native Governments, in case some of the Islanders in Fiji might wish to know of the matter.

So far, we have got about £A.1100, but a good bit more is expected shortly. One section of the Labour Corps (25 men) very generously gave a month's pay each !

I have sent separate letters to Eastman, Bishop Terrienne, and Hill (for Cable Company at Fanning); also to all British Officers of the Colony Service. I also propose to try the Phosphate Commissioners.

Yours sincerely,

J. Latham

H. E. Maude, Esq., M. B. E.,
Suva.

COPY.



OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,
GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS
COLONY.

Tarawa Island,
6th April, 1944.

WAR AID.

I am writing this to you as an appeal, asking you if you will join with others of this Colony in making a special effort to help in the winning of the war.

You will all have rejoiced at the liberation of the Gilberts and the driving out of the Japanese. But you will all of you know, too, that much remains to be done before the war is ended; Ocean Island is still in enemy hands, and the Allies have a hard way to travel, both in the Pacific and in Europe, before the Germans and Japanese are finally beaten and the world made safe again. And you will realise, from the numbers of ships and aircraft which you have seen yourselves in just this small part of the Pacific, what a great deal of equipment of all sorts, and what vast expense, is necessary finally to defeat the enemy.

This Colony cannot build ships or guns or aircraft to help the war. But there is one way in which we can help - by giving money for the purchase of these things. The Colony has already helped generously to the extent of nearly £15,000. Most of the money was made as an outright gift to His Majesty's Government: part of it was used to buy a travelling canteen truck, which takes food and drink to the people of England when bombs have wrecked their homes and they are starving. These gifts were very greatly appreciated by the Government in London, and by the people whom they served.

Now, some of our people are anxious again to do something to help; and from various donors we have already received the sum of over £400. I therefore suggest to you that we should try to make up, from the whole Colony, a sum of £2,500 with which we could buy for the Royal Navy a fast motor-boat of the sort which is used to load bombs and ammunition on to flying-boats, and to transport fuel, and rations for the crews. This would be one of the most useful gifts we could make to the Navy; I have made enquiries in London, and they have said so.

I therefore ask those of you who are in a position to give something to see whether you cannot do so. Perhaps you can give money; perhaps, like the people of Niutao, you can give mats which can be sold, and the proceeds given to the fund. I know that many of you have already given generously, and I do not wish to press any of you; but I promise that whatever you are able to give will be gratefully accepted by His Majesty's Government, and will be a fine bit of help towards the winning of the war.

The vessel we wish to buy for the Navy will have a plate put on it, to say that it is the gift of the people of the Gilbert and Elllice Islands Colony.

I am addressing this letter to your Native Government, so that its contents may be explained to all of you. If you wish to give any money or goods for sale, you should hand them to the Native Government or to the District Officer on his next visit.

(Signed) V. FOX-STRANGWAYS,

Resident Commissioner.

Western Pacific High Commission,

SUVA, FIJI.

25th May, 1944.

W/B 25.5.44.

Dear Captain Eastman,

I discovered from you, quite by accident, that you had never received the statutory fees for examining Messrs. Dickes and Hard. I know you said that you did not want to claim them, but still I feel that they should be paid, as the money was duly voted for the purpose and, indeed, the Resident Commissioner stated emphatically that they were being paid.

Anyway, in a rather rare moment of leisure I wrote a letter to the Treasurer on the subject and attach a copy herewith. I sincerely hope that it may be productive of some result.

17.5.44.

No news yet as to whether you are staying or not. No doubt the matter will be settled when you arrive at Tarawa.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Captain G. H. Eastman,
"Rongorongo", Beru Island,
GILBERT ISLANDS.

Western Pacific High Commission,

SUVA, FIJI.

25th May, 1944.

1/8 25.5.44.

Dear Mr. Christian,

Thank you for your letter of the 7th May, which unfortunately took a long time to reach me. I'm afraid we have no information in Suva as to the movements of the "Tagua": the vessel works under the control of the New Zealand Public Works Department, and I would advise you to get in touch with Mr. Haslett, of the Aerodrome Services' branch of the Public Works Department, who should know the answer you require.

I had a very enjoyable fortnight in Pitcairn Island and returned to Suva via San Francisco. I was glad to see old friends again and to find everyone well and happy. Next time I come to Wellington I will surely call on Mrs. Christian and yourself and will then tell you all my adventures.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Mr. Robert Christian,
9, Roxburgh Street,
WELLINGTON, E.1., N.Z.

Abasco, Tarawa,

30th May, 1944.

Dear Maude,

For many weeks since I first heard of your return to civilization I have been about to write but could never make up my mind whether to worry you with problems or just to find out how you and your wife and son are keeping. However, I happened to open the pages of an old diary which I kept, spasmodically in 1942, and after one particular entry it seemed that problems could await a short while. The entry I refer to concerns the loss of your petrol ration card way back in June of that year which you & I found, in office hours, eventually in the pockets of trousers en route to the laundry. After the rescue you apparently left the card on the counter at Carpenter's & my entry closes with the vision of an Indian boy chasing you up the street. Do you recall the episode?

As regards problems there are two rather important, at least that is my interpretation, problems with which I should like your permission to worry you. The one concerns the 1941 N.G. Ordinance & the other Native Trade, about the latter I hold very definite & possibly illogically rigid views. If you would be so kind as to give me the the all clear I should like to present them to you in the very best future.

Of most of the comings and goings of Tarawa & the islands which are important you will have

information, but there are one or two items in which you may be interested. In the first place we often wonder up here if Pop and his boss know exactly how difficult is our position; we get no officers, though all of the Administration shows obvious signs of fatigue, and we get no ships though the moral obligation of Britain warrants a fleet to redeem her name + failure to protect her people. To many of us the position often feels hopeless: we want to do our utmost but always there is a gnawing realization that so much of what we need urgently is still months away. But you will have quite enough of your own worries without my bringing more to your attention so I shall skip them until you come up here to see us. There is no doubt that we could do with you + I, in particular, miss the opportunity which your stay at F.I. gave me of having a senior officer to whom I could, as the Yanks would say, "hit ch" + permit the escape of hot air.

At present, after 5 months as Secretary, I am assistant to Bernham who is a good egg but so incommunicative + who, I fear, regards me as a "hot headed" + I fear a bit very industrious infant. Baker also is with us, a most benign and decent fellow; Lloyd has taken over the job of Secretary + appears well suited to the job. Baskin at present is acting O.C. Labor Corps.

Well H.E.M. I must close as this is the last sheet of paper I have. Please forgive this brevity but I shall write later with more detail. My very best wishes to Mrs Paude for her kindness to a worried youth in Suez — please tell her that my sincerity is fully

Western Pacific High Commission,
SUVA, FIJI.

718.3544.

31st May, 1944.

Dear Major,

Thanks a lot for your letter with all its interesting local news. It certainly makes one pine for home to hear all the island gossip. I don't actually envy you your job for I never did care for Butaritari; like Na Kaiea and Mr. Grimble, I think I'd go and bury myself on Makin. Still, it must be a lot better than Tarawa, at that.

How do you find my old friend Guichard? I got to like him but he really is a thoroughly bad lot: quite unprincipled, and determined to rule the island without assistance from either Government or Protestants. However, I imagine the Japs may have taken some of his stuffing out.

Would you please forward the enclosed letter by suitable opportunity to Likieb. I imagine you're the best person to send Marshall mail to, as there should be opportunities by plane and surface from Butaritari.

Burns Philp tell me that they sent a supply of liquor to you by last opportunity - I hope it arrived all right. It must have been an old order for I found them just putting it on a plane for Canton.

Good luck,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Captain R.M. Major,
British Administrative Officer,
Butaritari, Gilbert Islands.

Western Pacific High Commission,

SUVA, FIJI.

9th June, 1944.

Dear Colonel Fox-Strangways,

Thank you for your letter of the 18th May about the Colony War Appeal. I have here, deposited in my name, the sum of £F.37.14.4. which our Gilbertese and Ellice Islander families here gave me to keep for them for ultimate donation to some suitable object connected with the war. I have not yet had an opportunity of talking to our Committee but feel sure that they will agree to hand it over to the "aircraft tender" fund. I'll call the Committee and, if they agree, make a further appeal just among our folk here in Fiji. There's about 150 of us and I'll start the ball rolling with a tenner, so we should be able to raise £100 at least.

I'm returning the appeal letters addressed to Bishop Terrienne and Mr. Eastman, which were inadvertently sent to me as well as my own.

We've been going at full pressure in the office ever since I got back - if one looks away for a minute there seem to be at least a dozen new files in the inward dip. I've been endeavouring to get your orders speeded up - the smaller one's we deal with ourselves immediately. Poor Keegan must be tired with the continual proddings and reminders he gets.

I do hope you will like Captain Brennan, who is joining your administrative staff. I knew him slightly when he was living in Fiji and I must say he seems to me the type of officer required for administrative work and up to the standard required by the Colonial Office for Cadets sent out by them. He bears a good reputation in Suva, where he is well-known, for being courteous and obliging at all times.

I expect to be going away before long on another tack, but should be back within three weeks or so of my departure. I saw a telegram from you asking whether I could go up to see you for a brief period on various official matters. His Excellency was away at the time and I have no idea what action was taken. I doubt if Mr. Vassess would view it very favourably, in view of the resultant arrears in this office.

As I am writing a pile of Blue Ensigns has arrived with the Colony emblem, so I am slipping one of each size in the final mail bag, for your inspection. The rest will be sent by first opportunity.

The Treasurer has just rung up asking me to get you 6 National Geographic Society's map of the Pacific. I know the one you mean but I'm afraid it is unobtainable either here or in New Zealand, so I'm sending you the next best, which is published by Robinsons' of Sydney.

Colonel V. Fox-Strangways,
British Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

2.

Please excuse this hasty letter, but they
are holding the mail bag open.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

7/8/30.6.44.

Dear Mr. Christian,

Thanks for your letter of the 18th June, received today. I am glad to hear that you have got in touch with the New Zealand Public Works Department and hope that more of your people have by now succeeded in getting home again.

I must apologize for not having sent you the copies of the Island Regulations I promised when I was in Wellington. I am sending seven copies now and will send more if you need them.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Mr. Robert Christian,
9, Roxburgh Street,
Wellington, E.1.,
New Zealand.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

22nd June, 1944.

Dear Trevor Johnson,

Thank you for your letter of the 20th, which was duly sent up by Tui Johnson this morning. Yes, Garnett has been a bit of a trial, though one can hardly blame him, I suppose, for trying to get all he can while he can.

He has been up to see me today and has asked me to enquire from you whether a house is available and what essential furniture he will have to bring with him. The furniture is going to prove a bit of a proposition because little or nothing can be purchased here. Mr. Hale and Millers will both make stuff but take 4 or 5 months and McGowans products are rather on the shoddy side. So would you let us know by telegram the answer to these two points?

Now about income tax and quarters. You will see from the previous correspondence that Garnett is liable to pay Income Tax at Fiji rates unless you feel justified in stating a case why he shouldn't. As no case has been stated to date by either Armstrong or yourself he has been informed officially that he is liable to pay this tax and understands this clearly, although he will probably appeal to you on arrival to put it up to the High Commission. Re quarters also, Vaskess is waiting for a definite proposal from you, stating the cost etc. which the Secretary of State will have to approve.

I rang up Commander Hill this afternoon and he told me that Garnett should be released in approximately a fortnight's time. As you probably know, it's the tardy arrival of his relief from Wellington (if, indeed, one is to come) that has held things up. As far as the Fiji Government or the High Commission are concerned everything could have been arranged in a few days.

By all means drop a line should there be any way in which I can assist you at any time. I know how one feels out in the wilds (not that Tonga can be called by such a name) not knowing what on earth headquarters are doing about some point, and wondering if the entire collection have gone permanently into hibernation.

By the way, how about the furniture (or timber) question? Hale is willing enough, but terribly busy on Fiji Government orders, so if you have good carpenters you may prefer to make your furniture locally and have us send the necessary timber.

Please give my love to Brownlees,

Yours sincerely,

Lieut. Colonel

C.W.T. Johnson, *Naguluwa*,
H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul,
Tonga.

See

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji.

22nd June, 1944.

Dear Wernham,

Thank you for your letter of the 1st June, just received. I should have replied to your first letter before this, but pressure of work prevented. With regard to the "Pennague", I am most anxious not to sell it but if the Government really must have it I would, of course, have no option in the matter. I am advised that it is worth over £400 on the Suva market, at present prices, but if you take it over compulsorily I would be willing to accept £350 in full settlement. I understand that it cost £280 to build without labour costs, and prices are, of course, far higher now.

Nevertheless I do pray that you will not confiscate the craft. At the moment I quite agree that you are in desperate need of small craft and I am quite willing that the "Pennague" should be used by you (but not, I hope, by anyone else) without charge and under the sole stipulation that it be returned in good repair. The "Awahou", however, is bringing up an assortment of really fine launches for the Colony, of which at least two are destined for Tarawa, so I feel that on their arrival you might release mine.

Should you be willing to "kariaia" my "bubuti" I should be most grateful indeed if the boat could be sent down by return trip of the "Awahou", at full freight rates, of course, chargeable to me. Captain Page said that it was unfortunately just too long for his vessel.

Lest this letter sounds as if I am of a mercenary turn of mind, which as you know I am anything but, I would hasten to say that I do not want the "Pennague" for sale here, but for use. I was buying a launch here in any case (as it is my only hobby, bar books) and would require about £450 for the deal. Even at £350 I would, therefore, be losing on the exchange of craft fairly heavily. The "Pennague" is, furthermore, all right for the harbour here but not, as you have probably found out, for Tarawa lagoon. If you still want more launches after the fleet now being sent up, I could buy you more suitable craft than the "Pennague" in Fiji for you.

It must be pretty miserable in the Gilberts these days, from all accounts, but anyway things can only improve. Shortage of staff is a chronic problem everywhere, but we are sending more up as fast as we can get them. Why not send Cowell down here? I have always told him that he is not temperamentally suited for a career as an A.O., but would do well in the Treasury or Secretariat. You certainly have some funny birds as temporary officers in your "Corpse".

Hoping you can send me the "Pennague" per
"Awahou",

Yours sincerely,

J.C.M.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,
SUVA, FIJI.

24th June, 1944.

Dear Mr. Newell,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of the 1st June. Yes, I had hoped that your son would be joining the High Commission Service on a temporary war basis. This would have given him an opportunity to see how he liked the Colonial Service and how he fitted in to the scheme of things. The local authorities were agreeable enough but the proposal was turned down by Wellington, who declined to release him from the Air Force. Naturally they have the final say in such matters.

I believe he would have done all right once he had shaken down. He was destined for the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony under Colonel Fox-Strangways and would have been under fairly strict discipline: stricter, I fancy, than anything he labours under at present. However, it would have done no harm and he seemed quite prepared to put up with a fairly tough time at first. Both Eastman and Macmillan had preparatory talks with him on the Colonial Service.

I often think of that very happy evening your wife and you were kind enough to give me in Wellington: it was a very bright interlude in my travels, which since then have taken me to the United States, Pitcairn Island, and Hawaii. Your new work must be very satisfying, and I imagine you live permanently in Christchurch now.

With kind regards to you both,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

The Reverend H.W. Newell,
Epworth Buildings,
176, Hereford Street,
CHRISTCHURCH, C.1., N.Z.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji,

26th June, 1944.

Dear Gerald,

Reference our conversation this morning in which you kindly agreed to endeavour to fix up my plane passage to Aitutaki during your forthcoming visit to Samoa, I enclose copies of telegrams to and from the British Consul, Noumea, conveying the necessary authorization from Comsopac.

No.23 - 14.6.44
No.182143 - 18.6.44

The ship I have to catch leaves Aitutaki about the 22nd July but I realize that planes to that island are probably few and far between these days and that it may be necessary for me to leave here a long time ahead if I'm to ensure for certain that I don't miss the all-important connexions. Anyway I know you'll do your best.

If it wouldn't be too much trouble would you please just mention to your friends in Samoa that I hope to land up there by surface craft before the middle of August and will be on the cadge for a lift back to Fiji. I know a word from you can work wonders in that line.

With apologies for troubling you and hoping all goes well,

Yours sincerely,

Squadron Leader G. Hill,
Headquarters II Island Command,
Fiji.

Mr. Vaskess,

While I am not anxious to write an official minute regarding (14), lest it might damage Mr. Coode's future career, I should be grateful if I might be permitted to speak to you unofficially on this proposal at a convenient time.

2. I have no reason to question Mr. Coode's great abilities as an officer in charge of an Administrative District, but I doubt if a more unfortunate choice could be made for Secretariat work. There are in every Service certain officers, sometimes conspicuously brilliant, who will never under any circumstances be of the slightest use in a Secretariat. In stating that Mr. Coode is of this type, I am most anxious to avoid any impression of depreciating his powers in other directions.

3. Mr. Coode has been attached to this office on a previous occasion, and I noted at the time that, apart from a certain eccentricity of behaviour which made it necessary to check everything he was asked to do, he also suffered from an inability to concentrate and was therefore extremely slow. At the end of a day he would not have achieved more than an hour or two of normal work. As you are aware he suffers from ill-health and it is doubtful whether he would, in any case, be able to stand the regular work at nights and over the week-ends which will be required of him. The work of the office is thus likely to get into a state of chronic arrears, which could easily be avoided by the secondment of a competent, fast, and physically fit officer.

4. Should the Fiji Government be unable to second a more suitable and experienced officer as Assistant Secretary (Messrs. England, Baker, or Jardine would be excellent), I would suggest that Mr. Coode should be sent back to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony in exchange for Mr. Cowell who, though not experienced, is fast and has an aptitude for secretariat work.

27.6.44.

Nasese, Suva.
28th June, 1944.

To the Gilbertese people in Fiji,
Our fellow country-men.

Greetings!

We write to inform you of a message from the Resident Commissioner who is stationed in the Gilbert Islands.

He wrote to Mr. Maude asking him to let the Gilbertese and Ellice people in Fiji aware of his appeal.

We have been to the W.P.H.C. Office in response to a request by Mr. Maude. ^{He called us} so that we might learn the contents of that letter. Attached hereto is a copy of the Resident Commissioner's Circular to the Gilbertese and Ellice people.

We Gilbertese people have all agreed that each Gilbertese should subscribe one pound (£1). That is the minimum. There is no maximum.

What are your thoughts about that rate of subscription? We hope that you, too, are in agreement with us: this being our first chance to help our Government.

Mr. Maude told us to write down the name of each subscriber and the amount he subscribes, so that he could inform the Resident Commissioner accordingly.

Thankyou very much. Good-bye.

We are your friends, the Gilbertese people in Suva, and
our elder

Nasese, Suva.

28th June, 1944.

To our Fellow Islanders;

The People of the Gilbert Islands
living in Fiji.

Ko na mauri !

We are writing this letter to inform you that a message has been received by Mr. H.R. Maude from the Resident Commissioner in the Gilbert Islands. In this message, a copy of which is attached, the Resident Commissioner asks Mr. Maude to let the Gilbertese and the Ellice Islands people in Fiji know that an appeal is being made in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony to raise funds towards obtaining an aircraft tender for the British Navy.

We people from the Gilbert Islands living in Suva are trying to raise a sum of at least £1 each in response to this appeal, and we invite you to assist us by donating whatever you feel able to.

A list of subscribers is being prepared for sending to our kinsmen in the Gilbert Islands.

On behalf of your friends, the Gilbert Islands folk living in Suva,

Tiakabo,

H.R. Maude

Nasese, Suva.

28th June, 1944.

Kivei Kemuni,

Nanoda ni Kilipati ka tiko e Viti.

I'saka,

Sa yaco mai vei Mr. H.E. Maude e dua nai tukutuku mai vua na Turaga ni Lewa Vavalagi Levu mai na Kilipati, ka kerea mai kina me vakaraitaka vei keda ni Kilipati kei Elisi ka tu e Viti, ni sa ra soqona tiko e dua na i lavo ko ira na noda mai na Yatu Kilipati kei na Elisi, me caka kina e dua na Waqa ni Waqa-vuka, me noda i solisoli ki na Mataivalu-i-wai ni Peritania.

Sa nanumi meda soqona e dua na i lavo kei keda na tu e Viti me noda ka ni veivuke e na ka koya, ka da sa vakatovolea tiko oqo meda tauya £1 koi keda kece. Ia ko ni sa kerei yani ka mo ni solia mai na i solisoli ko ni sa dui rawata, ka me rawa kina na noda ka ni veivuke vei ira na noda ka tu mai na noda yatu yanuyanu.

Sa na volai na yacadra kece na sa solia na nodrai tavi, ka na vakauti yani, me ra la'ki raice na wekada ka ra tu mai na noda Yanuyanu mai Kilipati kei na Elisi. Ko ni sa nuitaki kece ni ko ni na colata na yaca ni nomuni vanua ka solia na ka ko ni sa rawata me me rogo vinaka kina na yacada.

Koi au,
Ko

H.E. Maude

E na vukudra na wekamuni ni Kilipati
ka tiko e Viti.

Nasese, Suva.

28th June, 1944.

Nakola raora aika kaini
Kiribati aika tiku i Biti.

Kam na mauri !

Ti korea ara reta anne, ba ti na kaongoingk-
ami ana rongorongo ara Unim'ane (ae te "Resident
Commissioner") are e tiku i Kiribati.

E roko ana reta nakon Miti Mouta (Mr. H.E.
Maude), ao e tuanga ba e na kaota ana bubuti nakola
kaini Kiribati ma Ereti aika mena iaoni Biti.

Ti a tia naba n roko n ala Office kain te
W.P.H.C. ba e kaaira Miti Mouta ba e na kaongoira
kanoan te reta arei. Raon ara reta ae boni katotongan
ana reta-n-kabuta te Unim'ane nakola kaini Kiribati
ma kain Ereti.

E a tia ni bo raoi nanora ni bane, ngaira
kaini Kiribati, ba ti na karekea teuana te baun (\$1)
nakon te manna. Ara toki anne mai nano, ao akea
tokina mai eta.

Tera aron ami lango n ara kare anne ? Ara
kantaninga ba tao a na boni kukurei nanomi ial ni
kare; ba ai tiba ara moan i-buobuoki ae nakon ara
Tautaeaka.

E tuangira Mr. Maude ba ti na kabaea aran
te aomata ma maitin ana bai ae e na anga ba e na kaotia
nakon ara Unim'ane i Kiribati.

Tiakabo, ao kam bati n raba.

Ngaira raoni aika kaini Kiribati aika
tiku i Suva, na ara unim'ane ae

H.E. Maude

MEMORANDUM

The Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission.

Lands Settlement in the Gilbert
and Ellice Islands Colony.

Post-War Policy.

The existing establishment of the Lands Settlement Department, or Native Lands Commission, consists of a European Chief Lands Commissioner and a staff of four native assistants. These permanent officers are assisted by the Administrative Officers, who act as Lands Commissioners within the limits of their Districts.

2. Apart from the fact that the settlement of native land disputes by Europeans is contrary to the general plan of training native organizations to take over their own affairs, it is obvious that the Administrative Staff of the Colony, even though assisted by a permanent specialist officer, could not possibly cope with the work. It is understood that as long ago as 1926 there were no less than 56,000 land disputes awaiting settlement; that at present there are at least 75,000; and that the number is increasing at the rate of about 700 a year. It would clearly take a staff of several full-time lands officers to make any impression on this vast bulk of litigation.

3. The question of lands settlement is the principal native problem confronting the administration of the Colony, and the only solution I can see is to turn the whole onus of dealing with it back to the locally elected Island Councils; it would in all probability never have reached its present alarming dimensions if it had not been taken away from the Native Governments in the first place. Miscarriages of justice will undoubtedly occur, but this is part of the inevitable price which every community must pay if it is to advance on the path towards local self-government, and during the first few years, while the

Councils are developing a sense of responsibility, the Administrative Officers will be able to exercise a general supervision which will serve to correct any major abuse.

4. The practical means by which this change in policy can be achieved already exists in the Island Land Courts, which were set up under Part 4 (F) of the Native Governments Ordinance, 1941, as subsidiaries of the Island Councils. Legislative amendment will be necessary to extend the powers of those bodies so that, instead of being merely Courts of first instance, they will become the final arbiters of all native lands disputes falling within their jurisdiction. The various traditional customs governing land ownership and transmission will, furthermore, require to be codified, in order to form a basis on which the Courts can work and to obviate their decisions becoming purely arbitrary. Once this has been done it will be the duty of the local administration to see that the Courts are actively functioning in each island. Registers showing the actual possessors of every landholding exist in all islands and, with these as a foundation, it should be possible for the Courts to settle the various ownership and boundary disputes brought before them in the light of the particular land code applicable to each island. The process of settlement will necessarily be slow and it is all the more important, therefore, that a start should be made as soon as possible.

5. I would emphasize, however, that the settlement of individual land disputes, necessary though it is, can at its best be only a palliative. The inordinate number of land disputes in the Colony is the inevitable outcome of confining a hardy and virile race to a few barren islands, whose size and capacity to support human life is strictly limited by nature, and then prohibiting their traditional methods of checking over-population, whether by abortion, infanticide, or inter-tribal wars. Land in the Gilbert

Islands is held by individual tenure, and through constant sub-division on inheritance many of the plots have dwindled to a few square yards. As a consequence the average Gilbertese sees his sole hope of economic betterment in sustaining a series of involved claims to the lands held by other members of his kinship group, and in this he is assisted by the uncertain, and often conflicting, nature of the traditional customs governing land ownership in their present uncodified form.

6. The only permanent solution to the lands problem is, therefore, to provide adequate facilities for the surplus land-hungry population to migrate. A carefully prepared scheme of colonization is not only the sole method by which we can ensure the future progress and prosperity of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands natives, but it is at the same time the speediest and most satisfactory method of settling existing land quarrels; and in this connexion I would observe that experience gained in the colonization of the Phoenix Islands shows that the migration of a single family may result in automatically extinguishing as many as fifteen or twenty land disputes.

7. The financing of a scheme of post-war colonization is clearly beyond the meagre financial resources of the Colony and lies, I suggest, peculiarly within the scope of the Colonial Development Fund. It is recommended, therefore, that a detailed application for a grant from the Fund for this purpose should be made at a later date. For the present I would suggest that if we intend to retain the uninhabited atolls of the Central Pacific as part of the Empire it is essential, in order to satisfy the doctrine of "effective occupation", that they should be settled with a permanent population, and the Gilbertese are the only race sufficiently specialized to be able to live on them. There would appear to be no reason, however, why the post-war settlement of these people should be confined to the

atoll islands, which are limited both as to their number and their capacity to support a population, when there are large and fertile areas in the volcanic islands which could be made available for their use. There are a number of coconut plantations in Fiji, for example, which their European owners will probably be only too glad to dispose of once the present artificial boom in the copra market has subsided. The day of the large European plantation is fast approaching an end and one need have no regrets at its departure if it leads to the settlement of prosperous groups of independent peasant proprietors on land which has hitherto supported a single European family in doubtful affluence.

8. I would recommend, in conclusion, that the existing Colony Lands Department should be retained for a strictly limited period only, in order to train the Island Councils in land settlement duties and assist them to codify their traditional land customs. The main function of the Lands Commission would be, however, to direct the rehabilitation of natives whose lands have been damaged or expropriated owing to the war and to supervise post-war colonization.

Acting First Assistant
Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission.

Suva, Fiji.

29th June, 1944.



Western Pacific High Commission,

N^o 1150

SUVA, FIJI, 21st July 1944

Received from H. E. Maude Esq

of Suva

the sum of five pounds

ten shillings and — pence, in payment of

Cash deposited for safe keeping
on behalf of British natives

£5 : 10 : 0 (Fiji currency.)

L. J. Samuel
Officer in charge of Accounts.

RECEIVED TELEGRAM.

No inquiry respecting this Message can be attended to without the production of this paper. Repetitions of doubtful words should be obtained through the Wireless Office and NOT BY DIRECT application to the sender.

14 AUG 1944

Number.	Station of Origin.	Words.	Time handed in.	Date.	Service-Instructions.
4,5,6,7.	Wellington.		142102 Gmt.	14th August, 1944	

SECRET.

To

Chief Magistrate,

PITCAIRN ISLAND

SECRET.

Chief Magistrate, from Secretary Western Pacific High Commission.

Pass to Maude who arrives in "New Golden Hind."

Take as recommended in your report on Pitcairn Island as follows stop

(a) Remainder first day stamp covers to be destroyed and detailed certificate to be furnished.

(b) Shepherd to be asked whether he would be prepared to accept appointment as Honorary Deputy Commissioner subject to approval of High Commissioner and to New Zealand authorities concerned and duties involved to be explained to him stop To be made clear that proposal is purely tentative as it is not clear that this would be best method of meeting the situation stop

(c) Mrs Watson to be approached and if agreeable to be appointed local auditor as you propose and to be asked also to survey past Government accounts and transactions from 1st January 1941 for honorarium of £15 as proposed stop

(d) Question of shipment of produce to be discussed and arrangements to be made for supply monthly estimate of oranges etc., available for shipment stop

(e) Invitation to dentist to visit island to be proceeded with and term to be ascertained and reported for prior approval.

(f) Construction of dispensary approved in principle but estimate of material required (show what can be procured locally

(locally)

and what will have to be imported) and cost of material and construction to be furnished before final approval can be given stop

Left as much
not allowable

(g) If cost reasonable purchase and installation of winches to be proceeded with as proposed, and

(h) Ascertain number and particulars of all young men willing to proceed for work oversea with view to arrangement being made as proposed stop Ends.

All paid for

alloy	= 109	10.0
nick	5	0.0
Dangers	1	0.0
1 only	7	0

arranged for glasses £149 7 6
no receipt for currency & for currency boxes.

all done paid - see April vouchers

none not received - has been acting for British Council for last 3 weeks

well
value of currency - 1/2 feet out raises and telegraph 4c.

Under sea - no fine available Killa considered available

ours required - 5 only 18 feet long for steering - best quality
3 dozen 14 feet long for rowing - best quality

DUPLICATE

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,

SUVA, FIJI.

18th August, 1943.

RECEIVED FROM Koau, Isaakara, Makin and Teauoki on
behalf of the people of the Gilbert & Ellice Islands
in Suva the sum of THIRTY-SEVEN pounds FOURTEEN
shillings and FOUR pence (£P.37.14s.4d.) [for an un-
decided War Fund] for safe keeping.

J. L. Maude.



Western Pacific High Commission,

Nº

963

SUVA, FIJI,

18 AUG 1943

19.....

Received from H. E. Mauds Esq. on behalf of
of Gilbert & Sullivan natives resident in Suva
the sum of — thirty seven — pounds
fourteen shillings and four pence, in payment of
Deposit Trust Ac.

L 37:14:4 (Fiji currency.)

W. J. Lamb

Officer in charge of Accounts.

RADIO ADDRESS:
ADMINISTRATION, RAROTONGA.

CODE:
BENTLEY'S.



COOK ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION,

Rarotonga,

20th September, 1944.

Mr H. E. Maude,
c/- the Resident Agent,
Aitutaki.

Dear Mr Maude,

I forward herewith a Certificate of Discharge which slipped from your Passport with other papers in my office and was not recovered at the time. I have to apologize for my clumsiness for dropping this certificate and am glad that it has been found and that I am able to return it to you.

I have informed the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific of the amendment in the "New Golden Hind" itinerary and also of the dates of the departures of planes from Aitutaki about the time you will arrive there and am now awaiting an expression of his wishes with regard to your return to Suva. If advice from him arrives in time I will transmit it to you at one of the way ports and, possibly, by the time you receive this you will already have had instructions from your High Commissioner in this connection.

I hope that you have had a very good trip and that you have been able to land at the islands you particularly wished to see.

My wife and I will be very glad to have you stay with us if you come to Rarotonga in the "New Golden Hind" and until you proceed in her to Apia. I hope that we shall have your company in these circumstances. It may well be, however, that the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific may be able to arrange for air transport for you from Aitutaki, and in that case I hope that you have a safe journey home and shall look forward to meeting you on some future occasion.

With kindest regards and best wishes, *in which my*

wife joins me,
Yours sincerely
William Fa'ailua

n 3 97 "New Golden Hind",

30th September, 1944

Dear Mr. Tarby,

Thank goodness I near the end of this

millionaires prize through the South Seas. The yacht is comfortable
enough and the inmates good people one and all; but six
weeks is as long as any man should be expected to spend in
a floating box, size 3 by 2. Furthermore, the next steps moving
for an instant, for which reason you must please excuse my
~~scanty~~ writing. I have hardly been able to write a single
report the whole voyage, and shudder when I think of the hours
of waiting awaiting me in the near future.

I was relieved to get your clarified message at
Pukapuka (Rukotanga had made a glorious mess of it) and to
know that all possible was being done to get me home. We're

Read nothing further since then, or unless there are any instructions awaiting me at Aitutake I shall get off there and trust to something turning up to save me on in due course. We were told at Pendergo that a P.B.Y. was due ~~there~~ ^{at Aitutake} about the eighth, returning to Tutuila via islands.

I am asking Captain Cole to return to you the hoodlums you so kindly ^{let me long that something} ~~sent me~~ ^{one ultra thick vest and duffel coats,} with ~~medium weight vests and~~ ^{ad} ~~parts.~~ Thank you very much indeed for ^{the loan} ~~lending them to me~~ - Particularly Ranzinga turned out to be by far the coldest part of the whole trip so they were not used after all (except for a couple of days off Pitcairn) but now the less they relieved my mind from worrying about days of cold. I intended to have them all washed before returning them, but even without near anything gets dirty on this ship, but ^{I thought it best} ~~we should~~ to send them as they are, with connection to Ranzinga.

apologies

O' Bryan and the wireless operator would be glad to carry on about,
if necessary.

The various things you asked me to get you at
Pitcairn ~~you'd~~ ^{one} ~~just~~ ruffled up into the clothes:

2 sets mixed stops at to & velocity 1/-

3 sets used " " " " " " 1/-

6 skeleton levers all stops on the;

a cigarette box volume; &

a rubber stick; and

and a few other cases.

Before doing this
to return of equilibrium
I do not
think I
& myself
not myself

I bought them with the £2 you gave me, so we are all square
on the transaction.

Thank you so much, and ~~was~~ Truly true, for your very
kind hospitality to me during my all too brief visit to Rangatira.
Despite the ^{shaky} weather, and ~~the~~ ^{the} arctic temperature, I thoroughly enjoyed
my stay and will always recall your kindness.

Hope to have an opportunity of meeting you both some
day in the future,

Yours sincerely,

The Noble and Ancient Fraternity of Corks Ark of Fiji

To all Noble Corks wheresoever dispersed to whom these presents may come

Greetings

Be it known that on the TENTH day of OCTOBER
in the year of the Deluge 4281 A.D. 1934

Brother HENRY EVANS MAUDE

A Royal Ark Mariner in good standing was admitted to the degree and fully instructed in the art and craft of Cork Masonry and having passed with merit all tests, trials and examinations he is from henceforth liable to all the pains and penalties of the said degree and is entitled to exact the same from all negligent brothers Cork.

In token whereof we have hereunto binged our hand and Cork in the Ark of Fiji resting at Suva.

C. W. Pugh.

Admiralissimo,

Fijian Corks.

Recorded: 10th OCTOBER 1944

Purser:

W. Halstead.

----- THE NOBLE AND ANCIENT FRATERNITY OF CORKS -----

ARK OF FIJI

Dear Sir & Bro.,

The Cork Degree will be conferred on those brethren desirous of becoming members of this noble order at a meeting to be held after the Lodge & Council on Tuesday 10th., October 1944.

The regulations are that it can only be conferred on brethren who are Royal Ark Mariners in good standing.

The fee for initiation is 2/6 plus 2/- being cost of jewel a total of 4/6.

If you are desirous of having this ancient degree conferred on you at the above mentioned meeting please notify Scribe E as early as possible.

For and on behalf of
The admirabilissimo Fijian Corks.

.....

Note :- Candidates for the degree must provide themselves with a hat.

All fees payable on demand at the meeting.

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

10th November, 1944.

Dear Mr. Moore,

Thanks for your interesting letter - we are always delighted to hear of the doings of the old G. & E. crowd. Wernham is pretty well the only one I knew left in the Colony, though Clarke and the Treasury people still stagger on - but at Suva instead of the islands.

I get terribly homesick when I think of the old peaceful days in the Gilberts. Especially as I'm afraid they will never return now that the war has brought the blessings of modern progress to the Group.

Congratulations on your infant - we were all thrilled to hear the news. Clarke says that for heavens sake don't forget to send the Birth Certificate (or a certified copy) for the Widows and Orphans Pension Fund people. Its very necessary, if the child is to be registered for benefits.

I can't imagine how you ever survive the Victorian winters. We shall never leave the islands ourselves - for that reason.

My wife and Clarke particularly ask to be remembered to both of you,

Very sincerely yours,

H.E. Maude

H.E. Maude.

P.S. No news of Ocean Island as yet. I very much fear that we will find few survivors when we finally take the place back.

T. Moore, Esquire,

561, Victoria Street,

Abbotsford, N.9.,

Victoria, Australia.

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

10th November, 1944.

Dear Captain Rodger,

Just a scribble to enclose a telegram received today from New Zealand. We always open them here, if the addressee is not in Suva, to see if they should be telegraphed on or not. I concluded that this one was from your wife and that, as you have no doubt met her by now, there is no point in retransmitting it by cable.

We do hope you got to New Zealand without incident and are now comfortably installed at home. It was a great pleasure having you with us and I learnt quite a bit about Melanesia - unfortunately so different from the Central and Eastern Pacific.

Yours sincerely,

See

H.E. Maude.

Captain G.M. Rodger,
4, George Street,
Caudelands,
Hamilton, N.Z.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji,

10th November, 1944.

Dear Lieutenant Wheelock,

I have just received your letter of the 25th October asking for information regarding stamp issues in the South Pacific. Of the islands mentioned by you Christmas Island uses Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony stamps; Penhryn uses Cook Islands stamps; while the Marshall Islands presumably use United States issues (if they have any at all at the moment).

I enclose a list showing the stamps purchasable from the Western Pacific High Commission - any communication regarding them should be addressed to the Secretary.

Personally, I find the most satisfactory way to buy stamps is through dealers in San Francisco and elsewhere. They hold stocks of every issue and save the bother of trying to find Agents in each of the many South Sea Administrations and obviate currency difficulties. Any of the main stamp catalogues such as Scotts or Stanley Gibbons will give full lists of all stamps issues with their prices.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

H. E. MAUDE.

Lieutenant E. E. Wheelock,
A.T.C. - Det. A.P.O. No. 324.
C/9 Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.,
Inter Island.

Western Pacific High Commission,
Suva, Fiji,

13th November, 1944.

Dear Cumming-Bruce,

If you remember, you gave me a pound (about a year ago) for the purpose of scattering sweets to the children of Pitcairn Island in the High Commissioner's name.

I'm afraid that for various reasons (due to supply restrictions among others) I was unable to execute the commission at the time. However, on a recent visit to the island from Rarotonga I succeeded in landing with the lollies and duly presented them to the Chief Magistrate for equitable division.

The Island Council particularly asked that Sir Harry might be thanked, on their behalf, for his kindness which was greatly appreciated; especially by the children, who were still sucking sweets when I left.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

H. E. MAUDE.

F. E. Cumming-Bruce, Esquire,
Office of the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom,
Wellington,
New Zealand.



OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.

13 NOV 43

Dear Maude,

I enclose £1

as arranged on
the phone, for
scattering largesse
in the High Commission's
name to the populace
of Pitcairn. Many thanks

Yours ever
F. M. M. Bruce

List of persons who subscribed to the sum of £F.38.9s.4d. handed to Mr. H.E. Maude, M.B.E., for safe keeping until such a time when a decision has been reached as to its allocation to a War Fund of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

Gilbertese.-

1.	Ikate of Tarawa	-	£F. --	5. 0	
2.	Taurabakai of Beru	-		5. 0	
3.	Teauoki Bukitaua, N.M.P.	-		5. 4	
4.	Ioteba of Makin	-		5. 0	
5.	Dresser Tiaeki of Maiana	-		5. 0	
6.	Toamanang Maraki of Tamana	-		5. 0	
7.	Ned Lanyon	-		5. 0	
8.	David Milne	-		5. 0	
9.	John Bing of Butaritari	-		5. 0	
10.	Eremo of "Santa Teretia"	-		5. 0	
11.	Tobateti of "John Williams"	-		5. 0	
12.	Tangaroa do.	-		5. 0	
13.	Barenaba do.	-		5. 0	
14.	Teuati do.	-		5. 0	
15.	Karaiti do.	-		5. 0	
16.	Karoua do.	-		5. 0	
17.	Moreti do.	-		5. 0	
18.	Tembeti do.	-		5. 0	
19.	Moteti do.	-		5. 0	
20.	Uare do.	-		5. 0	
21.	Temete of Marakei	-		5. 0	
22.	Simeon Komai	-		5. 0	
23.	Nurse Eretia of Maiana	-		2. 0	
24.	Nurse Eritabeta of Abaiang	-		2. 0	
25.	Nei Tetarariki of Ocean Island	-		2. 0	
26.	Carl Reiher	-		5. 0	
27.	Tekuruba	-		5. 0	
28.	James Bing of Butaritari	-		5. 0	
29.	Charlie Breaktifield	-		5. 0	6. 16. 4
30.	Teiti of Beru	-		5. 0	
31.	Siripasio of Lagere, Fiji	-		5. 0	
32.	Rui Simon	-		5. 0	15. 0

Ellice Islanders.-

1.	Simon, Leota, of Nanumea	-	20.	0. 0	
2.	Maleko of Vaitupu	-		5. 0	
3.	Savea do.	-		5. 0	
4.	Palaamo do.	-		5. 0	
5.	Semi do.	-		5. 0	
6.	Peia do.	-		5. 0	
7.	Kauoi do.	-		5. 0	
8.	Olona do.	-		5. 0	
9.	Kaitu do.	-		5. 0	
10.	Temoli do.	-		5. 0	
11.	Isaako do.	-		5. 0	
12.	Uaelesi do.	-		5. 0	
13.	Ienisei of Nukulaelae	-		5. 0	
14.	Taukave of Nanumea	-		5. 0	
15.	Tekutu of Vaitupu	-		5. 0	
16.	Tekui do.	-		5. 0	
17.	Tekavei of Nanumea	-		5. 0	
18.	Makini of Niutao	-		5. 0	
19.	Tauniu of Nanumea	-		5. 0	
20.	Viki do.	-		5. 0	
21.	Moi do.	-		5. 0	
22.	Tofinga of Vaitupu	-		5. 0	
23.	Seanoa Ka, N.M.P.	-		5. 0	
24.	Loaa of Funafuti (Mr. R. McKenzie)	-		5. 0	
25.	Pastor Koau of Nui	-		5. 0	

Carried forward: 26. 0. 0 7. 11. 4

	Brought forward:	£F.26. 0. 0	7. 11. 4
26.	Tia of Nanumea	--	5. 0
27.	Nukulasi of Niutao	--	5. 0
28.	Tane of Nanumanga	--	5. 0
29.	Manua do.	--	5. 0
30.	John Carter of "John Williams" -	--	5. 0
*32.	Ululau of Niutao	--	5. 0
33.	Teonea of Niutao	--	5. 0
34.	Kiteao do.	--	5. 0
35.	Opeta of Nukufetau	--	5. 0
36.	Momoro of Nui	--	5. 0
37.	Taiuti of Niutao	--	5. 0
38.	Tealofa do.	--	5. 0
39.	Faulufalenga do.	--	5. 0
40.	Tivai of Nanumea	--	5. 0
41.	Lalaia of Nanumanga	--	5. 0
42.	Saanga of do.	--	5. 0
43.	Nurse Rina Koau of Nui	--	2. 0
44.	Nurse Sengalo Temou of Nanumea -	--	2. 0
45.	Nurse Tafola of Niutao	--	2. 0
46.	Mata of Nui	--	2. 0
47.	Toaisi of Nui	--	5. 0
*31.	Titivalu of Vaitupu	--	5. 0
			<hr/> 30. 18. 0

Total (Fiji currency): £38. 9. 4

Equivalent to £A.43.9s.4d.

Second List of Subscribers to the Gilbert and Ellice
Islands Colony War Fund Appeal from the Gilbertese and Ellice
Islands Community residing in Fiji.

1.	Leota Simon	-	£F.10.	10.	0
2.	Mr. H.E. Maude	-	10.	0.	0
3.	Temete	-	5.	10.	0
4.	Emily Simon	-	5.	5.	0
5.	Tekatiri	-	4.	0.	0
6.	Tekuruba	-	3.	3.	0
7.	Siripasio	-	3.	3.	0
8.	David Milne	-	3.	3.	0
9.	Tom Nabong	-	2.	0.	0
10.	F. Tofinga.	-	1.	10.	0
11.	Toamanang Maraki	-	1.	5.	0
12.	Tebau Tiba	-	1.	5.	0
13.	Taurerei Rota	-	1.	1.	0
14.	Nukulasi	-	1.	0.	0
15.	John Milne	-	1.	0.	0
16.	James Carter Bing	-	1.	0.	0
17.	Carl Reiher	-	1.	0.	0
18.	Herman Reymond	-	1.	0.	0
19.	Arthur Breaktifiel	-	1.	0.	0
20.	Tio Tekuruba	-	1.	0.	0
21.	Tangaroa Baueri	-	1.	0.	0
22.	Te Riaua	-	1.	0.	0
23.	Raotannang	-	1.	0.	0
24.	Ben Kamatie	-	1.	0.	0
25.	Elia Koau	-	1.	0.	0
26.	Uoantabu Hicking	-	1.	0.	0
27.	Tiam Ieremia	-	1.	0.	0
28.	Timeon Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
29.	Mareko Tauatea	-	1.	0.	0
30.	Mareko Boutu	-	1.	0.	0
31.	Mikaere	-	1.	0.	0
32.	Ten Anton	-	1.	0.	0
33.	Tawaia	-	1.	0.	0
34.	Nei Teaoua (Mrs. Morgan)	-	1.	0.	0
35.	Nei Taela (Mrs. Wickham)	-	1.	0.	0
36.	Nei Ami (Mrs. Grant).	-	1.	0.	0
37.	Nei Tin (Mrs. Mabiri)	-	1.	0.	0
38.	Nei Mere (Mrs. Waildair)	-	1.	0.	0
39.	Nei Ili (Mrs. Emberson)	-	1.	0.	0
40.	Nei Maki Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
41.	Nei Nive Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
42.	Nei Marisela Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
43.	Nei Tabaruku Bobu	-	1.	0.	0
44.	Nei Tantonga	-	1.	0.	0
45.	Nei Areiti Tekirabereta	-	1.	0.	0
46.	Tonaiti	-		10.	0
47.	Alfred Reymond	-		10.	0
48.	Lalaia	-		10.	0
49.	Tekavei	-		10.	0
50.	Viki	-		10.	0
51.	Tia	-		10.	0
52.	Ululau	-		10.	0
53.	Faulufalenga	-		10.	0
54.	Tivai	-		10.	0
55.	Bula Tokotasi	-		10.	0
56.	Taundu	-		10.	0
57.	Moi	-		10.	0
58.	Sulu	-		10.	0
59.	Maamui	-		10.	0
60.	Saaga	-		10.	0

Carried forward:

£F.91.5. 0

	Brought forward:	£F.91.	5.	0
61.	Manua	-	10.	0
62.	Tani	-	10.	0
63.	Makini	-	10.	0
64.	Mele Tekavei	-	10.	0
65.	Toaisi	-	10.	0
66.	Rina Koau	-	10.	0

	Total (Fiji currency)	+ £.94.	56	0d.
			=====	

Equivalent to £A.^{106.10s. 1d.}~~106.48.5d.~~

Suva, Fiji Islands,

for Appeal Committee.

21st October, 1944.

(+£F.2 of this total was paid to the G. & E.I.C. Treasury by Messrs Burns, Philp (S.S.), Co., Ltd. on behalf of Tom Nabong - see No. 9.)

Second List of Subscribers to the Gilbert and Ellice
Islands Colony War Fund Appeal from the Gilbertese and Ellice
Islands Community residing in Fiji.

1. Leota Simon	-	SF.10.	10.	0
2. Mr. H.E. Maude	-	10.	0.	0
3. Temete	-	5.	10.	0
4. Emily Simon	-	5.	5.	0
5. Tekatiri	-	4.	0.	0
6. Tekuruba	-	3.	3.	0
7. Siripasio	-	3.	3.	0
8. David Milne	-	3.	3.	0
9. Tom Nabong	-	2.	0.	0
10. F. Tofinga.	-	1.	10.	0
11. Toamanang Maraki	-	1.	5.	0
12. Tebau Tiba	-	1.	5.	0
13. Taurerei Rota	-	1.	1.	0
14. Nukulasi	-	1.	0.	0
15. John Milne	-	1.	0.	0
16. James Carter Bing	-	1.	0.	0
17. Carl Reiher	-	1.	0.	0
18. Herman Reymond	-	1.	0.	0
19. Arthur Breaktifield	-	1.	0.	0
20. Tio Tekuruba	-	1.	0.	0
21. Tangaroa Baueri	-	1.	0.	0
22. Te Riaua	-	1.	0.	0
23. Raotannang	-	1.	0.	0
24. Ben Kamatie	-	1.	0.	0
25. Elia Koau	-	1.	0.	0
26. Ueantabu Hicking	-	1.	0.	0
27. Tiam Ieremia	-	1.	0.	0
28. Timeon Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
29. Mareko Tauatea	-	1.	0.	0
30. Mareko Boutu	-	1.	0.	0
31. Mikaere	-	1.	0.	0
32. Ten Anton	-	1.	0.	0
33. Tawaia	-	1.	0.	0
34. Nei Teoua (Mrs. Morgan)	-	1.	0.	0
35. Nei Tasia (Mrs. Wickham)	-	1.	0.	0
36. Nei Ami (Mrs. Grant).	-	1.	0.	0
37. Nei Tin (Mrs. Mabiri)	-	1.	0.	0
38. Nei Mere (Mrs. Waildair)	-	1.	0.	0
39. Nei Ili (Mrs. Emberson)	-	1.	0.	0
40. Nei Maki Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
41. Nei Nive Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
42. Nei Marisela Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
43. Nei Tabaruku Bobu	-	1.	0.	0
44. Nei Tantonga	-	1.	0.	0
45. Nei Areiti Tekirabereta	-	1.	0.	0
46. Tonaiti	-		10.	0
47. Alfred Reymond	-		10.	0
48. Lalsia	-		10.	0
49. Tekavei	-		10.	0
50. Viki	-		10.	0
51. Tia	-		10.	0
52. Ululau	-		10.	0
53. Faulufalenga	-		10.	0
54. Tivai	-		10.	0
55. Bula Tokotasi	-		10.	0
56. Tauniu	-		10.	0
57. Moi	-		10.	0
58. Sulu	-		10.	0
59. Maamui	-		10.	0
60. Sanga	-		10.	0

Carried forward:

SF.91.5. 0

	Brought forward:		£F.91.	5.	0
61.	Manua	-		10.	0
62.	Tani	-		10.	0
63.	Makini	-		10.	0
64.	Mele Tekavei	-		10.	0
65.	Toaisi	-		10.	0
66.	Rina Koau	-		10.	0
				<hr/>	
	Total (Fiji currency)		+ £.94.	5.	0
				<hr/> <hr/>	

Equivalent to £A.^{106. 10s. 1d}~~106. 4s. 5d.~~

Suva, Fiji Islands,
21st October, 1944.

for Appeal Committee.

(+£F.2 of this total was paid to the G. & E.I.C. Treasury by Messrs Burns, Philp (S.S.), Co., Ltd. on behalf of Tom Nabong - see No. 9.)

Second List of Subscribers to the Gilbert and Ellice
Islands Colony War Fund Appeal from the Gilbertese and Ellice
Islands Community residing in Fiji.

1. Leota Simon	-	£F. 10.	10.	0
2. Mr. H.E. Maude	-	10.	0.	0
3. Temete	-	5.	10.	0
4. Emily Simon	-	5.	5.	0
5. Tekatiri	-	4.	0.	0
6. Tekuruba	-	3.	3.	0
7. Siripasio	-	3.	3.	0
8. David Milne	-	3.	3.	0
9. Tom Nabong	-	2.	0.	0
10. F. Tofinga.	-	1.	10.	0
11. Toamanang Maraki	-	1.	5.	0
12. Tebau Tiba	-	1.	5.	0
13. Taurerei Rota	-	1.	1.	0
14. Nukulasi	-	1.	0.	0
15. John Milne	-	1.	0.	0
16. James Carter Bing	-	1.	0.	0
17. Carl Reiher	-	1.	0.	0
18. Herman Reymond	-	1.	0.	0
19. Arthur Breaktifield	-	1.	0.	0
20. Tio Tekuruba	-	1.	0.	0
21. Tangarua Baueri	-	1.	0.	0
22. Te Riaua	-	1.	0.	0
23. Ractannang	-	1.	0.	0
24. Ben Kamatie	-	1.	0.	0
25. Elia Koau	-	1.	0.	0
26. Ueantabu Hicking	-	1.	0.	0
27. Tiam Ieremia	-	1.	0.	0
28. Timeon Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
29. Mareko Tauatea	-	1.	0.	0
30. Mareko Boutu	-	1.	0.	0
31. Mikaere	-	1.	0.	0
32. Ten Anton	-	1.	0.	0
33. Tawaia	-	1.	0.	0
34. Nei Teacua (Mrs. Morgan)	-	1.	0.	0
35. Nei Taeia (Mrs. Wickham)	-	1.	0.	0
36. Nei Ami (Mrs. Grant).	-	1.	0.	0
37. Nei Tin (Mrs. Mabiri)	-	1.	0.	0
38. Nei Here (Mrs. Waildair)	-	1.	0.	0
39. Nei Eli (Mrs. Emberson)	-	1.	0.	0
40. Nei Maki Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
41. Nei Nive Tekatiri	-	1.	0.	0
42. Nei Marisela Kaumai	-	1.	0.	0
43. Nei Tabaruku Bobu	-	1.	0.	0
44. Nei Tantonga	-	1.	0.	0
45. Nei Areiti Tekirabereta	-	1.	0.	0
46. Tonaiti	-		10.	0
47. Alfred Reymond	-		10.	0
48. Lalaia	-		10.	0
49. Tekavei	-		10.	0
50. Viki	-		10.	0
51. Tia	-		10.	0
52. Ululau	-		10.	0
53. Faulufalenga	-		10.	0
54. Tivai	-		10.	0
55. Bula Tokotasi	-		10.	0
56. Tauniu	-		10.	0
57. Moi	-		10.	0
58. Sulu	-		10.	0
59. Maamui	-		10.	0
60. Saaga	-		10.	0

Carried forward:

£F. 91.5. 0

	Brought forward:		£F.91.	5.	0
61.	Manua	-		10.	0
62.	Tani	-		10.	0
63.	Makini	-		10.	0
64.	Mele Tekavei	-		10.	0
65.	Toaisi	-		10.	0
66.	Rina Koau	-		10.	0
				<hr/>	
	Total (Fiji currency)		+ £.94.	5.	0.
				<hr/> <hr/>	

106. 10s. 1d.
Equivalent to £A.106.10s. 1d.

Suva, Fiji Islands,
21st October, 1944.

for Appeal Committee.

(+£F.2 of this total was paid to the G. & E. I. C. Treasury by Messrs Burns, Philp (S.S.), Co., Ltd. on behalf of Tom Nabong - see No. 9.)

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

PAYER'S PORTION.

A261

2nd November, 1911

RECEIVED from G.E.I.C. Loan Appeal Committee

the sum of pounds

five shillings and eight pence.

PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT:—

Subscription to G.E.I.C. Loan
Fund Appeal

£ 1 : 5 : 8
1st

Revenue Officer,

Payer

NOTE.—The public are particularly requested to take receipts for all moneys paid and to see that the sum mentioned in the receipt agrees with the amount paid in.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

PAYER'S PORTION.

A 255

C. H. Moore, 19.....

RECEIVED from *GCIC War Appeal Committee*

the sum of *Forty three* pounds

minutes shillings and *four* pence.

PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT:—

*Subscription to GCIC War
Fund Appeal*

£ *43* : *19* :
QA47138
Payer.....

[Signature]
Revenue Officer,

NOTE.—The public are particularly requested to take receipts for all moneys paid and to see that the sum mentioned in the receipt agrees with the amount paid in.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

PAYER'S PORTION.

A251

1st November, 1944

RECEIVED from

GEIC War Appeal Committee

the sum of

Eighty Six

pounds

fifteen

shillings and

—

pence.

PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT:—

Subscription to GEIC War
Fund Appeal

£ 86 : 15 : 0

(1998.07)

Payer

[Signature]

[Signature]
Revenue Officer.

NOTE.—The public are particularly requested to take receipts for all moneys paid and to see that the sum mentioned in the receipt agrees with the amount paid in.

Cost £2250

already subscribed £3300 (over).

(?) Gellatose = 86.15.0 and paid in 22/10/52.
(?) Elchae = 38.9.4 and paid in 21/11/52.
Trilly & Turing = 7.5.0

£132.9.4.

Total contributions from G & E.I.C. residents in Fiji = £132.9.4
= £149.13.9.

No. of Gellatose = 61

Contributors = 41 Non-c = 20

No. of Elchae = 30

" = 23 " = 7

Total = 91

= 54

= 27

£86.15.0.

43.19.4.

£130.14.4.

4.11.44.

Mr. Maude,
Sir,

Revised lists (2) of subscribers attached herewith
in quadruplicate.

The following is given to clarify the tangled position
of all the money raised:-

First List.-

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---|---|
| (a) | £F.37.14. 4 | - | This amount was handed to you, and you paid it in your Deposit Account with this Office, on 18/8/43. |
| (b) | 15. 0 | - | was given to you by me on 21.4.44: being subscriptions by Nos.30-32. This amount was not paid in the Deposit Account. |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | <u>£F.38. 9. 4</u> | - | Total sum on First List. |

Second List.-

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|---|---|
| (c) | £F.86.15. 0 | - | was handed to you on 21.10.44 and understood to have been paid in at the Treasury (G. & E.I.C.) |
| (d) | 5.10. 0 | - | Temete's subscription - received and paid in to your Deposit A/c with this Office on 21.7.44. |
| (e) | 2. 0. 0 | - | Tom Nabong's subscription - paid in at the Treasury by B.Ps. |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | <u>£F.94. 5. 0</u> | - | Total sum on Second List. |

Summary.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| i. | Total on First List | - | £F.38. 9. 4 | |
| | Total on Second List | - | 94. 5. 0 | |
| | | | <u>£F.132.14. 4</u> | = <u>£A.149.19. 5.</u> |
| ii. | Amount already paid in at the Colony Treasury - (c) plus (e). | - | £F.88.15. 0 | = £A.100. 5. 9 |
| | Amount on Deposit with this Office (a) + (d) | - | 43. 4. 4 | = 48.16. 9 ⁺ |
| | Amount still to be accounted for (b) | - | 15. 0 | = 16.11 |
| | | | <u>£F.132.14. 4</u> | = <u>£A.149.19. 5.</u> |

(⁺ 1d. +)

Tom Nabong

N O T E.

Reference (89) and (90). The sum of £F.132.19s.4d. (equal to £A.150.5s.1d.), raised as a result of these two appeals, has been deposited with the Treasurer of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. This is made up as follows:-

- (1) Result of First Appeal - see (79) = £A. 43. 9s.4d.
- (2) Result of Second Appeal- see (80) = £A.106.10s.1d.
- (3) Additional 5s.0d.(Fijian currency)= 5s.8d.

TOTAL = £A.150. 5s.1d.

The above sums have been entirely collected from members of the Gilbertese and Ellice Islands community resident in Fiji and handed over to the Treasurer for inclusion in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony War Fund Appeal.

Jern.

for Appeal Committee.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,

SUVA, FIJI.

20th November, 1944.

Dear Mr. Yam,

I enclose a further 5/- (Fiji currency) to be added to the G. & E.I.C. War Appeal Fund, as a contribution from the Fiji residents. Please add it to the total against my name, which should now stand at £10.5s.0d.

The reason for sending this is because the Committee wish the Fiji contributions to exceed £A.150 and this small additional sum will turn the scales.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

For Appeal Committee.

S.C. Yam, Esquire,
G. & E.I.C. Treasury,
Suva.



GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

At Suva, Fiji,
21st November, 1944.

Dear Mr. Maude,

I am writing to ask you to be so good as to convey, to the Gilbertese and Ellice Islanders resident in Fiji, my sincere thanks for their most generous gift of £A.150.5s.1d. to the Colony War Aid Fund. Such generosity is touching and inspiring, and shows a Colony spirit of which all concerned may well be proud.

2. I have been told that the first boat was most appreciatively received in the Royal Navy, to whom it was presented on June the 8th last, the day on which we celebrated His Majesty's birthday. We are trying to collect enough money for a second boat, in order that the King may have another birthday present next June.

3. I must thank you particularly for all your care and trouble in organizing this section of the appeal.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

J. L. Stanger

Colonel.
Resident Commissioner,
Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

H. W. Maude, Esquire, M.B.E.,

Suva.

Western Pacific High Commission,
SUVA, FIJI.

25th November, 1944.

Dear Colonel Fox-Strangways,

I should have replied before this to your letter of the 8th November regarding Banaban annuities but thought it best to re-read first the voluminous correspondence on the subject. I enclose a copy of the rules dealing with the payment of these annuities, as decided upon and accepted by the Banaban community, from which it will be seen (Rule 10) that full Banabans are to receive their annuities irrespective of their residence: it seems clear, therefore, that all full Banabans in the Gilbert Islands or elsewhere should continued to enjoy these payments.

As regards half-Banabans, these people would normally be excluded under Rule 11. Under the present quite exceptional circumstances, however, I am quite certain that it would be the wish of the Banaban community that they should continue to receive annuities in all cases where they had left Ocean Island not of their own free will but owing to Japanese compulsion. Actually, a very parallel precedent exists for such payments: in so much as the Banaban community unanimously agreed in 1937 that half-Banaban leper patients at Naanikai and Makogai "should not be deprived of their annuity by the fact of their enforced absence from Ocean Island".

It is true that the payment of annuities was originally made subject to funds being available in any particular year. Dickes, however, has shown in paragraph 5 of his note that sufficient funds are, in fact, available at the present time: even if they were not, I would still suggest that the annuities should be paid (from invested capital or even, if necessary, from general funds) as the Banabans have always been generous to war appeals, both in this war and the last, and it must be admitted that they have had a poor return as a community for the £10,000 they donated for Empire Defence.

As regards land bonuses and overdue interest payments, it would seem that unfortunately nothing can be done at the moment. There will have to be a great straightening out as soon as possible after the recapture of Ocean Island, if we are to avoid a real tangle.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

Colonel V. Fox-Strangways,
TARAWA ISLAND.

F. 70/16.

(P. 3a)

(17.12.37.)

149w

H. H.

Since my arrival here I have been approached by refugees from Banaba for information as to their position in relation to the payment of annuities, land bonuses, and interest. I have obtained a list of all those concerned, which forms annexure (1) hereto, and comprises:

	<u>Adults.</u>	<u>Infants.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Full Banabans	22	4	26
Half-Banabans	<u>31</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>71</u>
	<u>53</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>97.</u>

the age of 16 being the dividing point.

2. Annuities were last paid for the six months ended 30. 6. 42. All those on the list are undoubtedly entitled to receive annuities until 30. 6. 43, and full Banabans until 30. 6. 44. The position of the half-Banabans (whose part origin is indicated in parenthesis on the list) is open to question; ordinarily, a half-Banaban is only entitled to annuities while actually resident at Banaba. Such matters were adjudicated by the people. In the present circumstances, it would seem equitable to pay half-Banabans who have been forcibly evacuated, and such action would, I feel sure, be the wish of the people. It is unfortunate that none of the Kaubure or Banaban Committee has been sent here. If another view is desired, Mr. Maude, who probably knows the people better than anyone, could be asked for advice in the matter.

3. It is more than probable that the lists contain inaccuracies and deficiencies, but if a ruling can be given as to the principle of whether payment should or should not be effected, such details can be corrected at the time of payment.

4. Annexure (2) contains such names as I have been able to ascertain of full Banabans resident in Gilberts prior to enemy occupation. There can be no doubt that these are entitled to payment of annuities - mostly since 1. 1. 42.

5. The total sum involved is in the civinity of £1500, and is payable from monies deposited in the Banaban Royalty Trust. The only income at present is interest on investments, and amounts to approximately £2000 p.a.

6. Consideration might well be given to the desirability of leasing land and building a temporary home for these people to keep them all together. At present they are leading a rather poor life scattered among relatives or friends, and are, it seems, feeling their dependency. Very early in the war they made a single donation of £12,500 to War Funds, subsequently raising very considerable further contributions by giving parties and concerts for the Red Cross. They have deserved well of us, and are a well to do people - whose money, however, is all under Government control.

7. Nothing can be

7. Nothing can be done at present about land bonuses and overdue interest payments, as all records seem to have been lost. Treasury records may help as to interest; I feel, however, that the matter of payment of annuities should be expedited, and will arrange to effect payment myself (I can identify most of the people) if an early decision can be given.

(Initialled) A.W.D.

7/xi/44.

List of Banaban and half-Banaban Evacuees sent to

Tarawa by enemy in July 1943.

Nakura	Adult, full.		At Eita
Ngaiwaka	" half	(Tarawa)	" "
Tauakitari	" full		" "
N. Katua	" "		" "
Takaro	Infant	"	" "
Bakoa	Adult	"	" Tearinibai
Beiata	" half	(Maiana)	" "
N. Naomi	" "	"	" "
N. Kamarawa	" "	"	" Eita
N. Tekimaua	Infant	"	" Tearinibai
Tiribo	" "	"	" Eita
Timaua	" "	"	" "
N. Rakena	Adult, full		" Abaokoro
N. Rote	" "		" "
N. Bintonga	" half	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Katanga	" "	"	" "
Boua	Infant	"	" "
Birimon	" "	"	" "
Tebana	" "	"	" "
N. Toatake	" "	"	" "
N. Temoa	Adult, full		" Abaiang
N. Teraieta	" "		" Nabeina
N. Tauea	" half	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Tokamarewe	Infant	"	" "
N. Toiti	Adult, full		" Tearinibai
N. Bure	" half	(Tarawa)	" Tabiteuea, Tarawa
Taubukintarawa	Infant	"	" Tearinibai
Terako	" "	"	" "
N. Ntarie	Adult, full		" Eita
N. Maa	" half	(Marakei)	" "
N. Eritabeta	" "	(Abaiang)	" Abaokoro
Tomton	" "	"	" Abaokoro
Tonana	Infant	"	" "
N. Teingira	" "	"	" "
Taubuki	" "	"	" "
Abitiai	" "	"	" "
N. Kiebu	Adult, full		" Eita
Kaitangare	" half	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Tibe	Infant	"	" "
Taorereiti	Adult,	(Arorae)	" "
Kimataite	Infant	"	" "
N. Karinea	Adult	"	" "
N. Tio	Infant	"	" "
N. Amtara	" "	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Kaekeamatang	" "	"	" "
N. Makin	" "	(Butaritari)	" Abaiang
Areke	" "	"	" "
N. Tebara	Adult	(Tabiteuea)	" Kainaba
N. Ruta	" full		" Tearinibai
Tebanati	Infant, half	(Maiana)	" "
N. Aribo	Adult, full		" Kainaba
Kareaiti	" half	(Beru)	" "
N. Teburentang	" full		" "
N. Taboraua	Infant half	(Beru)	" "
N. Teientinanuku	" "	"	" "
Kiangibo	Adult, full		" Abaiang
N. Ntea	" half	(Maiana)	" Eita
Teraka	Infant	"	" Abaiang
Reiati	" "	"	" "
Kiata	" "	"	" "
Tikoro	Adult	(Marakei)	" Eita
Tekaai	" "	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Kabwebwenimarawa	Infant, half	(Tarawa)	" "
Toaua	Infant, full		" "
Keangibo	Adult, half	(Tarawa)	" Abatao.

N. Tara	Adult, full		At Abatao
N. Kiraua	" half	(Tarawa)	" Abatao
N. Bukauea	" "	"	" "
Naitintebuaka	Infant	" (Maiana)	" "
Iabeta	" "	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Kaewa	" "	"	" Abaiang
Tekaobwere	Adult	" "	" "
Atiri	Infant	" "	" "
Beretita	" "	" "	" "
Tokabeti	Adult	" "	" Eita
Burangtara	Infant	" "	" Abaiang
N. Ketia	" "	" "	" "
N. Kaia	Adult, full		" "
N. Mine	" "		" "
Terakabu	Infant half	(Abaiang)	" "
N. Abitara	" "	" "	" "
N. Takeke	" "	" "	" "
Nanearantabuariki	" "	" "	" "
N. Tongoiti	Adult	" (Maiana)	" "
Reo	" full	(adopted)	" "
N. Tetangare	" "		" Abatao
N. Tabuariki	" half	(Tarawa)	" "
N. Awaki	" "	(Maiana)	" "
Tengata	" "	" "	" "
N. Tabotari	Infant	" (Tarawa)	" "
Toauea	" "	" "	" "
B, Atara	Adult	" (Maiana)	" Eita
Kiritome	Infant	" "	" "
N. Teraiti	Adult	" (B'tari)	" Abaiang
N. Tibwebwe	" full		" Noto
Terakuniti	Infant	" "	" "
Katarake	Adult	" "	" Abaiang
Tebikea	Infant	" "	" "

List of Full-Banabans resident in group prior to occupation.

N. Tabeta	Adult.	Abatao
N. Titoa	"	"
Ikamawa	"	Betio
N. Boratake	"	Abatao
N. Aotai	Infant	"
Atera	"	"
N. Katenaitina	Adult	"
N. Tanuanteiti	"	Abaiang
N. Kimaia	"	"
Teweia	Infant	Noto
N. Taeam	Adult	Abatao
N. Kabuabai	"	Nabeina
N. Butikong	"	"
Enoka	"	"

Personal.

28th November, 1944.

Mr. H.E. Maude, M.B.E.

Sir,

Repeated enquiries from certain applicants and the delay by some people in making up their minds, have compelled me to bring to you for your decision and for any action you may like to take, the list of applications attached.

2. Applicants 2 to 7 are all Ellice Islanders. I approached the Ellice^{*} Committee last Saturday seeking their consent. The Committee expressed their approval of all the applications. The members stated that they "would like to see more of their people here". I favour their view, but, I am inclined to stick to my notes in column "remarks" of the attached, which are so far, not known to the Committee.

3. Discussing the matter of "£5 landing deposit" (see note (c) on list attached), the Committee decided to ask you to be so kind as to sign, on behalf of the Committee, Deeds of Guarantee on behalf of the applicants. The committee asked me to assure you that they (the Ellice community) will never, as ever and in accordance with native customs, ignore their less fortunates; and that they would be responsible for any expenses that they might be called upon to pay to the Government of Fiji.

4. A deed of Guarantee form is attached for information.

5. With regard to applicant No.1, I feel that it would ~~be~~ better wait until Tiata calls in Suva again. He is still to square up with the Fiji ~~Pl~~ Police Dept. about the landing deposit money for the recently discharged lepers.

Sorry for all this bother, Sir,
Yours obediently,

Jouarofinga

(* I am at present writing a note giving an account of the beginning and the position to date of the G. & E. Committees - the outcome of a kind suggestion by you to the old men on 24.6.44. The note should be ready some time next week. Amongst other things is that when they are all ready, they will seek a personal interview with you, which I think will prove most encouraging.

The Ellice Committee referred to above numbered 4, and none of them is an applicant on the list attached.)

Names and particulars of Gilbertese and Ellice Islands People in Suva who seek assistance that arrangements be made to facilitate the landing in Fiji of some of their relatives.

=====

Particulars of Applicants.							Particulars of intended Immigrants.								
Name.	Age.	Sex.	Occupation.	Average Income per month for past 24 months.	Means of earning money.	no. of depen- dants.	Size of land (if any) freehold or lease.	Steps to satisfy the Fiji Police Authorities.	Name.	Age.	Sex.	Address.	Relationship to Applicant.	Reasons for visiting Fiji.	Remarks.
1. Len Siata, Levuka, Ovalau.	45.	M.	Fishing & planting.					(a)	1. Len Irie, 2. Nui Bnamanna, 3. Nui Kabuti 4. U. Kaitinea 5. Len Kake	80. 75. 20. 10. 55.	M. F. F. M. M.	Irawa, Gilbert Is. " " " " " " " "	Adoptive father. " - mother. Daughter. son. brother-in-law.	1-4: To join and live with Siata at Levuka. 5: To care for 1-4, and to return to Tarawa.	(a)
2. Ululan, Vesari.	40.	M.	Fishing & planting.	£7.	Sale of fish and baskets; also wife is working at the Lunatic Asylum.	4.	3 acres. (b)	(b)	1. Injon 2. Miella	12. 8.	M. F.	Mitao, Ellice Is. " "	Nephew. Niece.	Both to come for education.	I recommend the coming of these two. H.
3. Makini, Vesari.	54.	M.	Planting	£4.	Sale of vegetables (taro & kava).	3.	6 acres. (b)	(d)	1. Leota 2. Lakoa 3. Idu	22. 25. 25.	M. M. M.	Irawa, Gilbert Is. Sunapati, Ellice Is. " "	Son. Nephew. Nephew.	To help in cultivating land.	The coming of these 3 boys is recommended. H.
4. Viki, Vesari.	60.	M.	Fishing & planting.	£6.	Sale of fish.	nil.	(d)	(b)	1. Kapihia 2. Sapeta 3. Evota (+ possibilities)	40. 25. 8.	M. F. F.	Nanumea, Ellice Is. " " " "	Nephew-in-law. Niece. Grandniece.	To educate the children.	For the present, I do not recommend this case. H.
5. Sekavei, Vesari.	58.	M.	Fishing & planting.	£10.	Sale of fish & baskets. One son in the Fiji Police Force.	3.	5 acres. (b)	(d)	1. Siata 2. Samuli 3. Kilipi 4. Kili 5. Matan	33. 30. 1. 15. 10.	M. F. M. F. F.	Nanumea, Ellice Is. " " " " " " " "	Son. Daughter-in-law. Grandson. Niece-in-law. Niece.	To live with Sekavei at Vesari, and help work the land.	1-3 only recommended for the present; not 4 & 5. H.
6. Sokotaki, Vesari.	38.	M.	Fishing & planting.	£10.	Sale of fish and baskets.	4.	3 1/2 acres. (b)	(d)	1. Peau 2. Makaili 3. ?	18. 20. 1.	F. M. F.	Mitao, Ellice Is. " " " "	Daughter. Son-in-law. Granddaughter.	To help work land.	This case is recommended. H.
7. Leota Simon, Solomon's Bay.	49.	M.	Fishing & planting.	£40.	Sale of fish and taro & kava.	3.	1 1/2 acres (c)	(c)	1. Kaosila Leota.	20.	M.	Nanumea, Ellice Is.	Son.	To live with him (L. Simon).	Recommended. H.

(a) Can deposit £5 each; but he (Siata) asked if his case can be given special consideration. As I presume this about, Siata is able to obtain £15 for payment to the Fiji Police Immigrant Officer to make up the £15 demanded from him for in respect of the three recently discharged persons whom he is going to be responsible for their stay in Fiji. I recommend an official enquiry from the Fiji Native Office with regard to this man's present position in view of (b), (c) and (d) in F. 14/3. (Vol. I), before we further our efforts on his case.

(b) He tells me that he is now heir to the title of "Tui Levuka".

(c) Asks you to sign a Deed of Guarantee on their behalf; and if the Police Immigrant Officer rejects the Deed, he asks you to pay the £5 per head landing deposit money, and they he repays it in instalments.

(d) Asks you to sign a Deed of Guarantee on his behalf; and if the P. I. O. rejects it, he asks you to pay will pay the £5. Simon wished the Govt. (W.P.M.C.) would help the Colony native people more in this matter by some way, to sign the Deeds of Guarantee. I have put to him my hopes for Gilbert Islands and Ellice Islands committees to deal with these unnecessary "botherings" to you or to the Govt.

(e) Shareholder of a block of about 3-5 acres of freehold land at Vesari.



IMMIGRANTS ORDINANCE 1909.

Deed of Guarantee.

To all to whom these presents shall come.....
sendeth Greeting;

WHEREASwho
is arriving
has arrived in this Colony by the ship.....on.....194.....
is being
has been forbidden to land unless.....shall furnish security in
accordance with section 13 of the Immigrants Ordinance 1909. And whereas
the said.....desires to enable the said
.....to land in the Colony.

Now these presents witness that in consideration of the said.....
.....being permitted to land in
the Colony, he, the said....., doth
hereby for himself, his heirs, executors and administrators covenant with the
Colonial Treasurer of the Colony for the time being, and his successors in office
that he, the said....., will on
demand forthwith repay to the said Colonial Treasurer all costs and charges and
passage expenses out of the Colony which may be incurred in respect of the said
.....within three years from the date of
.....landing in the Colony.

In witness whereof the said.....has set
his hand and seal this.....day of.....194.....

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of.....

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

4th December, 1944.

E.C.
4.12.44.

Dear Kennedy,

I do not know whether Vaskess is keeping you au fait with your intended future movements or not but, just in case the answer is in the negative, I thought I would pass a friendly word along so that you may be in a position to make your domestic arrangements accordingly. I know from bitter experience what a hopeless muddle one's affairs can get into unless one knows prospective movements for at any rate a reasonable period ahead.

As I understand the situation, you have applied to come and work in Suva (in connexion with your Ellice Islands Grammar?). This has been approved and as Vaskess is about to go on leave it is, I believe, intended to kill two birds with one stone and have you act in my place for three or four months. The work is largely routine and detail and you would, of course, have no difficulty in doing it standing on your head. Its principal features are the drafting of endless letters and saving telegrams, the answering of a telephone that never seems to stop ringing and the interviewing of an average of about ten people a day who want to see the Secretary for some reason or other.

The chief disadvantage of the darn job is that it means coming back night after night and over the week-ends (Vaskess and I sit, I reckon, an average of 70 hours a week on our stools of repentance), if the unbelievable stream of letters and telegrams are not to engulf one completely. I may say that when I was asked what I thought would be your preference I replied frankly that I believed, subject to correction, that you would prefer to get on with your own job as Provincial Commissioner and that a more junior officer would be more content here. Be that as it may, you will naturally be very welcome personally and unless everything is altered again (as it is, of course, always liable to be at short or no notice) I will book you and your family at the Grand Pacific Hotel as from the date of arrival of the next "Matua".

Major D.G. Kennedy, D.S.O.,
"Glen Aros", P.B.,
Hastings, N.Z.

- 2.-

Acting on instructions, I have been trying for some time to retrieve a Japanese pistol handed by Brownlees to a Captain Williams, for delivery to you via this office. Colonel Seddon here has, I understand, located Captain Williams somewhere in New Zealand and has written to him to try and find out what he has done with the weapon.

I have only recently returned to Fiji to find that you are married. May we both wish you hearty congratulations and every good fortune. We look forward to seeing you both in the not distant future,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

524 BOM

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

15th December, 1944.

Dear Captain Rodger,

Sorry not to have replied before this to your letter of the 16th November but I was doing what I could to find out whether you could be fitted into a position here, as you suggested. I'm afraid, however, that my efforts were of no avail: actually the Fiji Government is not short of staff as far as the Administrative and Secretariat Departments are concerned - they are even able to lend us officers from time to time. As a result they do not take on officers on a temporary basis in the same way as the High Commission: all their Administrative Officers are members of the Colonial Administrative Service appointed by the Colonial Office in London. There is, therefore, no chance of the Fiji Government considering you for any position - except, possibly, in the clerical grades of the service, which are not well paid.

As regards Keegan's job, I'm afraid that too is no good as he has decided to stay on here instead of returning to the Gilberts. We actually had a well qualified man ready for the position in any case, had Keegan elected to vacate it.

Since commencing this letter I have got hold of your file and see that H.E. has decided to "sign you off" in view of your medical history and the doubt as to if and when you would be fit for duty again. I'm extremely sorry to learn this but don't let it depress you too much - you can, presumably, always apply for service again should you get a definite O.K. from the doctors. I was afraid that the powers that be would jib at granting any further leave after your month in New Zealand.

I am looking forward to the "small contribution to my library" which you state you are kindly sending, but I don't expect it until the next "Matua" as only light letters come by air. I will seize this opportunity of thanking you, however, in anticipation!

Captain G.M. Rodger.

The

- 2.-

The boss says he's off on leave tomorrow and the doctors tell me I've a duodenal ulcer and must drink milk all day - what a life.

524 BOND Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) H. B. MAUDE

WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION,
SUVA, FIJI.

19th December, 1944.

Dear Mr. Christian,

I wonder if you would mind doing a small favour for me. I am enclosing with this letter five envelopes with Pitcairn stamps on them, and addressed to various people in different parts of the world. Would you please be so good as to post these and see that they get off by the next mail from the island?

(5 envelopes)

Everything is now arranged for Thelma to go to school in Australia, preparatory to taking the nurses' course at Wahroonga. The only trouble is the question of getting her to Sydney. At the moment I cannot see how we can arrange for Irma and Thelma to travel unless a direct boat happens to call at the island and some responsible adult, such as Nurse Totenhofer, is travelling on it too. However, you can rest assured that we are doing our best to solve the problem.

Honor has asked me to thank you very much for your kind presents. We often think of you and Flora. We do hope that it will not be long before we are both able to visit Pitcairn again and see all our kind friends.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. E. MAUDE

524

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC,
SUVA, FIJI.

19th December, 1944.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th December, inviting my wife and myself to be present at the swearing in of the New Governor, His Excellency Mr. A.W.G.H. Grantham, and to state that we both hope to be able to attend.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) B. MAUDE

Acting Secretary, Western Pacific
High Commission.

The Honourable
The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Fiji.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
SUVA,

16th December, 1944.

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

SIR,

I am directed to invite yourself and

Mrs. Maude

to be present at the swearing in of the new Governor,

HIS EXCELLENCY MR. A. W. G. H. GRANTHAM,

which will take place in the Legislative Council Chamber on the day following His Excellency's arrival. For reasons which you will appreciate it is regretted that it will not be possible to advise you in advance of the expected date of His Excellency's arrival, but when he has arrived you will be informed by telephone of the final arrangements for the swearing-in ceremony.

2. I shall be glad to learn whether you and

Mrs. Maude

hope to be able to attend.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,



.....
Acting Colonial Secretary.

H.E. Maude Esquire,
Assistant Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission,
S U V A.

(Officers who are entitled to do so should wear
Civil uniform.)

Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION AFTER THE WAR.

THE general policy to be followed in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony after the war and the reorganization of the administrative and other services to conform to it have been discussed with the Secretary of State for some time. Decisions have now been reached on the main points and are set out below for information and guidance.

I.—POLICY.

(i) The Colony is to be regarded as a "native territory"; its inhabitants are now discharging a wide variety of administrative and technical functions and are assumed to be capable of being taught all the others which their society requires, given the necessary time, educational facilities and genuine determination to do so.

(ii) No European or other foreign officer is to be engaged for any post in the islands until it has been conclusively shown that it is impossible to obtain or train an islander for it.

(iii) The main preoccupation of the administration must be to train the islanders to discharge all necessary functions for themselves.

(iv) Such European staff (other than members of the Colonial Administrative and other Services posted to the Colony) as it is inevitable to employ in the meantime should be engaged on short term secondment conditions so that it may readily make way for trained islanders as they become available.

These principles must be modified in application to Ocean Island as long as the phosphate deposits are being worked and in relation to such special subjects as aviation and wireless telegraphy.

II.—CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

(i) The general political and administrative control of the Colony—that is to say the Central as opposed to the Local Government—must remain in the hands of the Resident Commissioner and his staff, and will include Defence, Colony Revenue and Expenditure, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, Aviation, Communications, and, subject to III. (v) below, Public Health and Education. In all these services, however, Gilbert and Ellice islanders are to be employed as far as possible, in accordance with the general principle of preference of employment for the inhabitants of the Colony.

(ii) The Resident Commissioner is to study the possibility of establishing a consultative or legislative council, either for the Colony as a whole, or for the Gilbert Islands and Ellice Islands separately. Further than this it is unnecessary to try to look at present.

(iii) British Administrative Officers will be members of the Colonial Administrative Service; it is the intention that they should be employed in the Colony for relatively short periods and then sent elsewhere. Other officers will be on secondment from the corresponding departments of the Fiji Government by an arrangement which is now being worked out. Members of the Public Health and Medical Services will come under the Joint Pacific Public Health Service, which is at present being organized in collaboration with the Government of New Zealand.

(iv) The Central Government of the Colony will be sea-borne as much as possible as soon as an appropriate vessel can be obtained. The Resident Commissioner will select a land base in the Colony at which accommodation will be provided up to a reasonable standard of comfort for officers while they are at the base, and such other facilities, including office accommodation, store-rooms and work-shops, as may be essential for the maintenance of a sea-borne Administration. The necessary buildings will be designed and construction put in hand when circumstances permit.

(v) At first, two District Commissioners will be appointed, one for the Gilbert and one for the Ellice Islands, with shore stations, on the same principle as those of the Central Government, at Tarawa and Funafuti or such other atolls as the Resident Commissioner may select after further experience. These officers, however, are to be regarded as temporarily employed during the period of reconstruction and plans should be laid to withdraw them and close their stations after a period of five years which can be extended if it seems necessary when the time comes. In the meantime they also should be sea-borne as much as possible, as soon as suitable vessels are available.

It is expected that it will also be necessary to maintain an officer at Canton and, in that case, he can supervise the islands of the Phoenix Group, etc., which can be reached with least inconvenience from Canton.

(vi) When Ocean Island is reoccupied and exploitation of phosphates resumed, an Officer-in-Charge will be appointed first as Military Administrator and later with the status of District Commissioner, and other special arrangements will be made by the Resident Commissioner as may be required.

III—LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

(i) The Native Governments of the islands have been established for many years in a form well suited to their circumstances and to the increasing responsibilities which they must assume as they gain experience and maturity. Each village elects a Headman (Kaubure) and all the Kaubures of an atoll together form the Island Council under a Chief Headman appointed by the Resident Commissioner. There is also on each atoll a Native Magistrate, a Scribe and such numbers of village policemen as circumstances require. These "Native Governments" are local government bodies, analogous in functions and responsibilities to a County Council, and risk of misunderstanding will be avoided if in future they are called "Tarawa Island Council", "Abemama Island Council", and so on.

(ii) It does not appear that this general set-up requires any considerable modification but some readjustment of functions may be desirable, especially in respect of finance, for financial responsibilities are an essential part of progress in political and administrative responsibility.

(iii) The following are assigned to the Island Councils as Local Government revenue: fees and fines in the Native Magistrates' Courts; local licences; copra tax or any local land rate which may take its place; market fees, if they exist or are introduced.

The main part of the revenue comes from the copra tax. This is paid in kind and it is probably undesirable to be in too much of a hurry to substitute a money tax. If a properly organized co-operative marketing system under Government control is established, copra paid as revenue can be disposed of readily. Nevertheless, since there is individual ownership of land, it may be found that a small land rate is a more convenient form of direct local taxation. This matter must wait to a later stage.

(iv) An Island Treasury should be formed on each atoll under the Scribe or, if the Scribe has too many other duties, a Treasurer should be appointed to take charge of it. The Treasury must keep at least the following books: (a) cash book; (b) vote book; (c) deposit ledger. These can be kept in the simplest possible form, but are essential.

(v) Each Island Council must prepare its annual budget in advance for approval by the Resident Commissioner. Provision should be made for revenue under the various heads and for expenditure required to pay the salaries of the Chief Headman, Native Magistrate, Scribe and Treasurer, Village Headmen, Village Constables and any other local officials who may be required. Under "Other Charges" provision should be made for local island services, such as sanitation, maintenance of buildings and boats and so forth. As regards medical and educational services, it is most desirable that each community should meet from the beginning a part at least of the cost involved. A division found convenient elsewhere is for the Local Authority to assume responsibility for village dispensaries and village schools and, if this is practicable in the Colony, it is a good rule. (See also VI below.)

The District Commissioners will assist the Island Councils to prepare their estimates but should resist the natural temptation to do it for them. When estimates have been approved by the Resident Commissioner the Council should be notified and should issue a warrant to the Treasurer to make payments in accordance with them. These warrants should be signed by the Chief Kaubure and, if there is a Finance Committee, by its members.

(vi) The revenue assigned to the Island Councils is local government revenue for which there is no responsibility to the Secretary of State and to Parliament. Adequate arrangements must be made for auditing the accounts of the Local Authorities but this will probably be beyond the capacity of the Audit Department in Fiji, not only for lack of staff and transport, but because the accounts will presumably be kept in the vernacular. If this is the case the Resident Commissioner will have to make other arrangements for internal audit. In any case a transcript of the cash book and deposits ledger and copies of the simple vouchers in use must be submitted monthly by the Treasurers of the Island Councils, for examination by the British Officers appointed for the purpose by the Resident Commissioner. It is important that officers on tour should take these transcripts with them and compare them with the originals. Communications being what they are the postal packets containing the accounts may in fact not be collected every month: but they should none the less be made up and sealed in the first ten days of each new month.

(vii) All revenue received by the Island Courts, Village Headmen, etc., should be paid in, if possible weekly and in any case at frequent intervals, to the Island Treasury.

Experience elsewhere shows that fines and fees are often imposed and not collected so that the amounts shown in the Magistrates' books seldom tally with the actual receipts in the Treasury and there is a ready opportunity for peculation. A useful device is to require the Magistrate to keep a note book showing as a one line entry in each case fines and fees which have remained unpaid for thirty days. Sometimes the cause of fines being unpaid is simply

that the habit of imposing excessive fines has grown up and this aspect may require supervision. But, whatever the reasons, it is undesirable that fines and fees should remain unpaid and inspecting officers should pay particular attention to this matter.

(viii) The Island Treasurer is authorized by his warrant to pay all salaries as they fall due out of the funds lying in the Treasury. It is generally desirable (but not always possible) to require that a responsible Chief Headman or other member of the Local Authority should be present when payment is made and should sign the voucher as a witness. It is also important that British Officers should make certain that all members and employees of the Local Authority know the salaries due to them and are aware that it is the responsibility of the Island Treasurer to pay them, and that if they do not receive them they should complain at the first opportunity to a British Officer. Irregularities will occur and as much supervision as possible is therefore necessary, especially in the first few years. This supervision, however, should not go the length of transferring the responsibility and the duty from the Island Treasurer to a British Officer, nor should British Officers have any anxiety that they will be held responsible for peculation and muddles. Provided they have exercised a proper and intelligent measure of supervision and, if circumstances require departure from any financial regulation, have obtained the authority of the Resident Commissioner for that departure, the faults and incompetencies of the island staff will not lie at their door. Their part is with sympathy and understanding to correct these faults and to help the Island Treasurers to improve their standards.

(ix) The Island Treasurer is similarly authorized to pay, under "Other Charges" votes, for such things as may be authorized in the financial warrant. The same general remarks apply to payments under "Other Charges" as to payment of salaries.

(x) The maximum cash balance which may be held in the Island Treasury should be laid down and, as far as circumstances permit, sums in excess of this should be transferred to a deposit account for each Island Treasury kept by the District Commissioner or the Colony's Treasurer, since there are no banks in the Colony in which accounts can be opened. Difficulties of transportation, however, will inevitably have the effect of largely nullifying regulations about cash balances. This is one of the advantages of taxation in kind, since conversion to cash can be arranged in conformity with regulations about maximum cash balances and with the visits of ships.

(xi) Each Island Treasurer should be provided with a secure safe or cash box as soon as possible. It has been found in other countries that good quality Milner steel cash boxes of a kind which can be screwed down to a solid object, such as a table, are well suited to this purpose. They are no doubt unprocurable during the war but something of the kind should be obtainable in Fiji or Australia very soon after it.

(xii) Although the object should be to bring the local government expenditure in any atoll within the revenue of the atoll, as far as circumstances permit, at the same time there will be cases (at the beginning possibly many cases) in which local revenue will be inadequate to maintain a proper standard of Local Government services. In these circumstances the Colony Government will make a subvention to the Island Council in the nature of an annual grant-in-aid sufficient to enable it to pay its way. These grants will form a part of the expenditure of the Colony and will accordingly require the approval of the High Commissioner and, as long as the Colony is dependent on British Treasury funds, of the Secretary of State and the Treasury in London.

(xiii) Some atolls will accumulate surplus balances which then become available for local capital works. If funds are not available from this source, or do not suffice, help can be obtained by application under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. In the early stages borrowing by inexperienced local Authorities such as these Island Councils is a slippery slope on which it is better that they should not try to walk, anyhow for some years.

IV—OTHER SERVICES AND SHIPPING.

The nature of the Colony and the policy set out in the foregoing require the provision of adequate shipping and wireless telegraphy equipment. Steps are being taken to meet these needs as far as is practicable in time of war but it will obviously be impossible to do so entirely satisfactorily at such a time. It is, nevertheless, important to impress upon all officers now that ships and boats are difficult to obtain and very expensive and, especially in coral waters, exceedingly easily damaged or even destroyed by carelessness and neglect of ordinary seaman-like precautions. Since it will happen that British Officers may have no knowledge of seamanship and the care of ships and boats, arrangements are being made for expert control and supervision. Officers must understand that directions on these subjects have got to be obeyed whether an officer considers they are necessary or sensible or not. The

loss, serious damage or deterioration of any Government vessel should in every case be the subject of a formal enquiry and if neglect, carelessness or avoidable incompetence are disclosed severe disciplinary measures must be taken against the officer responsible.

In the circumstances of the Colony it would be unreasonable to forbid the use of Government craft for recreation and they may in fact be used for this purpose, but particular care must be taken of craft employed in this way.

V—EMERGENCY WAR MEASURES.

While the Colony is an operational area and many of the atolls contain garrisons or airfields, it will be necessary to provide additional officers in charge of civil affairs and for other special duties arising out of the war. As soon as possible these officers and all other expenditure directly chargeable to the war (e.g. the Labour Corps) are to be brought together in a separate part of the budget and shown as emergency war expenditure.

VI—GENERAL.

This memorandum is concerned with the general lines of policy and the administrative arrangements needed to give effect to it. It does not attempt to lay down a land policy nor to prescribe the scope and extent of the public health and education services to be provided. These matters are now being examined in detail and will form the subject of a second memorandum; but some general observations may conveniently be made here.

The total land area of the Colony is 262½ square miles (slightly larger than Anglesea) and its population of 37,000 is scattered in a series of little isolated communities over an immense area of the Central Pacific. The atolls have already reached, or will reach very soon, the limits of population which their very small land area can carry (Anglesea had 49,000 in 1931) and afford little if any opportunity for an improved standard of living deriving from their own resources, even for their existing population. A substantial increase in population could only mean starvation or migration; there are by no means unlimited opportunities for migration.

Thus we have on our hands an intelligent and vigorous people, whose population checks (infanticide, abortion and war) we have suppressed; whose small land area scarcely suffices for their present needs; who have seen something of the fuller life of the outside world and of the bewildering range of modern technical equipment; whom we have already accustomed to the small beginnings at least of public health services and education, in spite of the great difficulties arising from the vast extent of ocean over which their little islands are scattered; and who are no longer content with the only life which their natural surroundings will support. But the paradox remains that the more we do for them, the less sufficient for their needs will be their present limited area of land, while, on the other hand, we cannot simply do nothing. The obligations of what is diplomatically known as "effective occupation" and the necessity of maintaining a reasonable content among the people would of themselves compel us to provide some social services, even if considerations of humanity and the keen desire for them among the people themselves were not compelling reasons.

The only conclusion which can be drawn, without making fruitless efforts to see too far into the future, is that we must provide, as well as the central administrative control and direction, a reasonable measure of assistance especially in public health services and education, so designed as to make the people as well able as is practicable to do for themselves all those things which life in their islands requires and which they have not yet learnt to do. This will be a difficult task, but it is essential that its nature should be firmly grasped from the start, lest zeal for good works should end in no more than over-population, aggravated unemployment and disillusion. For the task to be successfully accomplished it must be tackled in a realistic and objective manner and according to a carefully worked out synthesis of the needs and problems of public health, education, land tenure and colonization. It is to the working out of that synthesis that we must all now turn our minds, so that each may make the best contribution of which he is capable to the joint task confronting all of us who have responsibilities to these people. We have an opportunity such as seldom comes the way of Colonial Administrators to promote the future happiness and security of a fine people and to give an example to a critical world of what we mean when we claim to be the trustees of backward people; we must not fail in it.

Government House,
Suva, Fiji, 4th October, 1944.
(S.F. 82/3)

P. E. MITCHELL,
High Commissioner.

SECRET

M E M O R A N D U M.

The Secretary, Western Pacific High Commission.

The Central Pacific Islands under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, other than those included in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, with suggestions for their development.

With the inclusion of the Phoenix Group within the boundaries of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, there are now only five Central Pacific Islands coming directly under the jurisdiction of the High Commissioner:-

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (1) Flint | (4) Malden |
| (2) Caroline | (5) Starbuck |
| (3) Vostock | |

These form the southern portion of a straggling group of eleven islands, which stretch across the Equator from Kingman Reef in the north to Flint Island in the south and are usually referred to as the Line Islands.

2. Three further islands, Howland, Baker and Jarvis, formerly considered part of the High Commission Territories, were annexed by the United States in May, 1936. Of these, Howland and Baker are still believed to be under "effective occupation", the former as a meteorological reporting station and the latter as a subsidiary air base. Jarvis Island, however, is understood to have been abandoned and when I last made enquiries it was being used as a target by American bombers based on Christmas Island.

FLINT ISLAND.

3. Flint Island is by far the most valuable of the five from the point of view of immediate colonization or of exploitation as a copra plantation. It is a narrow island, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, N.N.W. and S.S.E., tapering towards both ends from a greatest width of $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile. It is estimated to contain about 30,000 coconut trees and is said to be, for a coral island, very fertile. On a tree basis the island should support not less than 400 natives, as the yield per tree is high. The average annual copra export during the 5 years from 1930 to 1935 was, however, no less than 233 tons (or over twice the combined output of Hull and Sydney Islands in the Phoenix Group) and on this basis the island should support a population of 500 or more. It is essential that the island should be inspected before a really accurate picture can be given as to its colonization possibilities.

CAROLINE ISLAND.

4. This island is potentially the most valuable for native settlement, though at the present time it would probably not support more than 125 permanent inhabitants. It is a long, slender atoll, comprizing twenty four islets surrounding a shallow lagoon. In size it measures about $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles north and south, tapering from a width of a little over a mile at the southern end; the whole atoll is about

13 miles in circumference. In 1920 Caroline Island had 30,980 coconut trees, at which total all the available area was occupied. Unfortunately the larger portion were either badly planted or else smitten by some disease, for it was reported that by 1927 most of them had died. As a result of further planting there were 13,215 trees in 1929, and these were said to be looking strong and healthy. Owing to its superior fishing possibilities, I estimate that the island is potentially capable of supporting a population of 700 or more but, as in the case of Flint, an inspection is a necessary pre-requisite to detailed colonization proposals. Any visiting party should, if possible, be accompanied by an agricultural expert in order to determine what caused the initial planting of coconut trees to be a failure.

VOSTOK ISLAND.

5. Vostok is a very small triangular coral island, about 1,400 yards long and lying 86 miles north-northwest of Flint. Owing to its size it would not be possible to settle a permanent population on it, but it could be handed to the colonists on Flint for use as a subsidiary coconut plantation. The island would thus fall into the same category as Phoenix, Birnie and McKean, in the Phoenix Group, which have been granted to the inhabitants of Sydney, Hull and Gardner respectively for eventual exploitation as communal coconut plantations. A hundred coconut seedlings were planted on Vostok in 1922, but apart from this no attempt has ever been made to utilize the island.

MALDEN ISLAND.

6. Malden is a triangular, flat coral island, about 5 miles long by $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide, and lies 460 miles north-west of Caroline. The land area, which is estimated at 10,700 acres, entirely surrounds a very salt lagoon of about 9,000 acres. The island contains extensive deposits of phosphate-guano, which were continuously exploited from 1860 to 1919 and, with intermissions, until as late as 1927. Although, however, over 100,000 tons of low grade phosphate-guano remains on Malden, the British Phosphate Commissioners have stated that its extraction would not be a commercial proposition. The buildings and plant used by the Malden Island Proprietary, Limited, including a railway, rolling stock, tractors, launch, boats, stores, etc., are now the property of the Government and still lie on the island, a recent offer to purchase them made by interests in Tahiti having been declined.

7. Although Malden is known to have supported a former population of between 100 and 200 natives, any settlement project would be hampered by its extremely variable rainfall. Though the yearly average fall is 28.62 inches, it has varied from less than 4 inches in 1908 to 93.5 inches in 1914. Sporadic attempts to plant coconuts have hitherto proved unsuccessful and only 30 coconut trees are reported to be growing on the island at the present time. I do not consider that an attempt to colonize Malden is likely to prove successful, as the prolonged droughts experienced from time to time will probably prevent the majority of nuts and seedlings from reaching maturity. Should it be desired, therefore, to colonize the island for political reasons, it would be necessary to subsidize the settlers for a considerable period.

STARBUCK ISLAND.

8. Starbuck is a low coral island $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles long,

east and west, by 2½ miles greatest width, tapering towards both ends: the land area is said to be about one square mile. The phosphate-guano deposits on the island have now been worked out and although serious attempts have been made from time to time to plant coconuts they have invariably proved to be a failure: like its neighbours Malden and Jarvis, it appears to be too exposed to the constant trade wind, and at the same time subject to periodic droughts, to enable the trees to reach maturity. The remarks made above as to the settlement possibilities of Malden Island apply with even greater force to Starbuck.

UTILIZATION OF THE ISLANDS.

9. As indicated above, of the five islands the only ones worth retaining for other than strategic reasons are Flint and Caroline, and it is suggested that the occupation of these islands and the working of the coconut plantations they contain should be commenced at an early date, in conformity with the wishes of the Secretary of State. There would appear to be three methods by which the desired purpose can be achieved:-

- (1) By settling the islands with a permanent residential population. While the Secretary of State declined to sanction a colonization scheme in 1941, the position has been altered since that date by the interests of S.R. Maxwell and Company, Limited, in the islands having been transferred to the Government and His Excellency might be willing to consider the desirability of again approaching the Colonial Office in the matter.
- (2) By exploiting the plantations with a labour force of Gilbertese, under a European or Euronesian Manager.
- (3) By working the islands as a co-operative enterprise, managed entirely by the Gilbertese themselves.

10. I would recommend the third alternative for your consideration, not only as the most practicable and economical, but as being at the same time in accord with the present plans for native advancement in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. Should this plan be adopted, it would be necessary to invite the inhabitants of one or two of the Gilbert Islands (I would tentatively suggest Arorae and Tamana, as being the most advanced in corporate spirit) to form a co-operative organisation to undertake the working of each plantation. The Government would provide passages for the members of the group, and their families, to Flint and Caroline, and would undertake to purchase the copra produced by them at a fixed rate (say £A.10 per ton) and to return them to their homes at the end of an agreed period (say 2 years).

11. A necessary pre-requisite to the above proposal is the provision by the Government of:-

- (1) transportation both for the members of the group and their families; there is no prospect of the scheme succeeding unless the natives set up their own homes, even though only temporary ones, on the new islands;
- (2) three surf-boats: two for Flint and one for Caroline;
- (3) a teleradio set, with a native operator;

- (4) the usual co-operative store trade goods for sale on a landed cost basis;
- (5) a Dresser and medical supplies for each island;
- (6) nominal salaries for a skeleton Native Government on each island (Magistrate, Chief of Kabure, Scribe - who would also act as Manager of the Co-operative Store - and Policeman); and
- (7) emergency supplies sufficient for 2 months at least - it is improbable that these would need to be used, except during the first few weeks of house-building and settling down, but we cannot afford to take any risk of food shortage.

12. I would emphasize the extreme simplicity of the scheme and the fact that it should pay for itself with a comparatively small initial outlay. Apart from the provision of passages and the few elementary needs of existence, as detailed above (which can be paid for from the difference between the buying and selling price of the copra produced), the Government would be under no obligation to the co-operative group, who would house themselves, feed themselves and clothe themselves. As the natives will be working solely for themselves all the usual labour troubles, such as we have recently had in Fanning and Washington and are now having in Christmas, will be avoided and at the same time the group will obtain valuable experience in managing their own administrative and economic affairs.

13. I am confident that the amount of copra produced will be, if anything, more when the native is working for his own co-operative group than if he were producing for a European employer. Even should this not prove to be the case, however, all the conditions of "effective occupation", as desired by the Secretary of State, will have been met, and met at a minimum expense to the Government, regardless of the ultimate copra production of the group.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION.

14. In the event of the above proposals being approved, the following practical suggestions are put forward with a view to putting the scheme into effect with the minimum delay:-

- (1) the Secretary of State be requested to approve the necessary initial expenditure up to a total of say £3,000: this sum to be regarded as a loan to be repaid from the difference between the buying and selling price of the copra produced - see paragraph 12 above. The Secretary of State was informed that this request would be made in paragraph 2 of His Excellency's telegram No. 104 of the 29th April, 1943;
- (2) the New Zealand Department of External Affairs be requested to agree to the deviation of the a.v. "Tagua" on its forthcoming tour, to permit a visit to Caroline and Flint Islands, the deviation to be at the expense of the High Commission and chargeable to the scheme. I could then report in detail on the optimum number for each group, the plant and equipment required, loading facilities, and all the numberless points necessarily involved in such an undertaking. This suggestion is made in view of the fact that the "Tagua" will be in any case

visiting Rakahanga, which is only 575 miles from Flint ^{with} (Caroline a further 95 miles), and we are never again likely to have a vessel with a High Commission officer on board in that part of the Pacific area;

- (3) an enthusiastic officer be appointed to have sole charge of the scheme, subject to control by the High Commissioner, with the necessary authority to use his initiative in the practical working out of details without reference to this office. He would need to be selected in time to make an early start with the selection of the participating groups, purchase of the necessary stores and equipment, etc. Whoever should be chosen for this work, and I would tentatively suggest Captain Drenman of the G. & E.I.C. Administrative staff in the absence of a more experienced officer, he would, of course, have all the advice and assistance that I can give him; and
- (4) the New Zealand Public Works Department be asked to charter the a.v. "Tagua", as soon as she can be spared, for the purpose of conveying the co-operative groups and their families to the islands. I do not know how many native passengers the "Tagua" can carry but imagine that two trips would be necessary. The New Zealand Government have already offered to charter the "Tagua" to the High Commission on two occasions this year and I understood from conversations in Wellington that they find difficulty in keeping her fully occupied. The m.v. "Awahou", which could do all the work required in one trip, would be a more suitable vessel, but it is presumed that she will be engaged on essential work for a long time ahead.

POLITICAL FUTURE OF THE ISLANDS.

15. It is suggested, in conclusion, that if the five islands under consideration are to remain British possessions after the war they should ultimately be included within the boundaries of the Fanning Island District of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony. If the Administrative Officer at Fanning Island is to be more than nominally in charge of Washington and Christmas Islands he will, in any case, have to be provided with a small vessel for District use, and once this has been done he could well add the supervision of the infant settlements on Flint and Caroline to his far from onerous duties. Distances in the Eastern Pacific are admittedly great (Flint is 1,005 miles from Fanning and Caroline 975, with Christmas, Malden, Starbuck and Vostok lying en route at 153, 540, 595 and 918 miles respectively) but the officer at Fanning Island is probably less pressed for time than any other official in the Colonial Service, there is virtually always a good beam wind, and, given a competent native or European navigator, mere distance should not prove an insuperable handicap. Although the present may be an inopportune time to alter the actual political set-up of the islands by Order in Council, it is still suggested that the Administrative Officer at Fanning Island would be the logical official to supervise a co-operative working scheme involving their occupation, once it has been established, and His Excellency may consider this need for supervision sufficient justification for approaching the Secretary of State with a view to funds being provided by the Colonial Office to enable the immediate construction of a vessel for the Fanning Island District.

(Signed) H. E. CUDR

Acting First Assistant Secretary,
Western Pacific High Commission

va, Fiji,
5th July, 1944.